

# MACLEAN'S

**UP IN FLAMES**

B.C.'s long, fiery and perilous summer

**BACKLASH**

Special report on opposition to same-sex marriage

**UNDER ATTACK**

Eric Hoskins on the dangers facing aid workers in Iraq

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## CHALLENGED BY CHANGE

It's always tempting to prefer things the way they are—and often wrong to do so

**MY WIFE AND I** in a courageous effort to stimulate the economy, recently bought a new vehicle. It's handsome and shiny—just fast until the kids get done with it—and I am once more at home within. That's not surprising, given that's the same modus the vehicle we've favored for the last seven years. In fact, as we prepared to trade that one in and drive off in its successor, we both focused more on the aging object soon to be part of our past than the gleaming part of our future. The old barge, after all, was the one in which we ferried both our kids home, as newborns, from hospital, and it participated in every weekend to our country place, so it's been part of some of our most important memories. We thought hard about keeping it—but that didn't make sense, in financial or practical terms. You have to know when's the time to move on.

That's a hard decision to make, even when the object in question is inanimate. So it's that much harder when the subject is people, or a way of life. If we had decided to hold on to our old vehicle, chances are we soon would have learned to love it less; it needed a cousin of grand worth of repairs recently, and the more kilometers we run up, the more we found ourselves fretting every time we parked the lid up for a long one. In due time, in short, were done. That same thinking applies, in many ways, to overall societal change—it's a wrenching process that calls for some often unbecome self-examination in the part of participants. You can apply the same logic to elected politicians. Jean Chrétien will argue to the end of his days that if anything, he's leaving office earlier than he had to—but many Canadians would likely judge his legacy much more warmly if he'd stepped down one or two years ago.

Overall, we're presently living through a period of extraordinary social ferment in Canada: everyone, from the *New York Times* and the *New York Times* to the *EDG* and the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, has recently run pieces reporting on all the changes here, varying

from the decriminalization of marijuana possession and the legalization of gay marriage to our ever more diverse and multicultural populations. Astronomically, Canada isn't the same country that it was even this time some two years ago: the new attitude of the United States post-9/11, and the different direction our political leadership has chosen, have seen to that.

So it's not surprising amid all that tumult that, as *National Affairs* Correspondent Jonathan Gresham reports this week, a backlash has begun—specifically in the ruling opposition to government plans to legalize gay marriage. But whether or not you side with those opponents (and I don't), it seems to have made. Younger people are, in general, much more open to the concept of formalizing gay partnerships. In Vancouver a couple of weeks ago, in a meeting with a group of professional people in their early 30s, we spent a lot of time talking about the generational split in terms of how Canadians perceive country. They're in their 20s or 30s, living in big city signs of social change—multicultural, multilingual, gay, straight, entrepreneurial, whatever—are ever-present. You subject to that, and to the needs of your ever changing neighbours.

The interesting outcome is that our youngsters—as arguably the first wave of Canadians who don't care about whether we have a national identity, they're secure in themselves, in the environment that makes them that way, and that's all, in the end, that really matters. Makes me feel better yet, in turn, about saying goodbye to our old vehicle, and recognizing its best destination in the new, improved model that will enter us bodily into the future.

*John Christian Wilson-Smith*

responses@maclean's.ca to comment on The Editor's letter.

## MACLEAN'S

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"Paul Martin has promised so much we could eventually see the government's costly executive jets replaced with a fleet of flying pigs." —RÉGÉ MERCIER, CALGARY

Comments to the editor: [www.macleans.ca](http://www.macleans.ca)

## Great expectations

Paul Martin is proud to have slashed the deficit, albeit on the backs of the provinces, health care and national security ("Paul Martin," *PM*, Cover, Aug. 18). Many Canadians, however, do not realize that while he was running executive jets he continued to fund entrepreneurship and waste as exemplified by the HRDC fiasco, the government's costly controversies and the advermergencies. The answer to your question on the cover, "What kind of PM will Paul Martin be?" is a very another aging socialist PM from Quebec favouring big government, high taxes, programmed and uncontrolled immigration, indifferent to national defence and security, and he'll spend gobs of money to keep the Liberal zone getting crickets humming. *Johnathan, Ottawa*

Last year I was an organizer for one of Paul Martin's town hall meetings. Paul Wells mentioned in his article that Martin, the giant larva was not tested or consulted by anyone within Martin's inner circle. It was a cross-section of business people living within in our community and surrounding areas. We even included two local high school students who expressed an interest in attending. Martin answered all the questions that were asked of him in a deliberate and straightforward manner. I wish you had painted a little finer picture. *Marilyn Beck, Stratford, Ont.*

As a long-time Liberal, I feel certain that Paul Martin will be a much better PM than Chretien. But then again, that would not be hard to do considering all the snarled things Chretien has done over the years. Martin needs to get rid of Chretien's old cronies and review the Liberal Party. A more-some approach to government certainly will be a refreshing change. *Bob Ryman, St. John's, Nfld.*

When Paul Martin ascends to his pedestal in November it will represent a new era in Canadian politics. We will have three

Wells call his candidacy "goofy" You should be helping Canadians see the choices, broaden the debate, test out the potential leaders, not leniently under to make life easier for the big guy. *Pauline Kay, Guelph*

How much did Paul Martin pay for that eight-page campaign ad? *Paul Jerry, Mississauga, Ont.*

My brother and I met Paul Martin at a Liberal convention five years ago, when I was 23. We were expecting a simple "Hello" and "Nice to meet you," but instead we were asked questions about what we felt was important to our generation. We talked for 30 minutes about youth, education and rising tuition fees. I hope your insight into the Martin juggernaut will allow others to see what we witnessed that day in Ottawa—a politician who listens, supports and leads. *Tesley Kaelan, Belmont, Ont.*

## Percentage gain

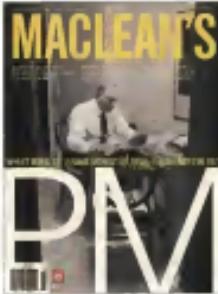
In your "Off the charts" listing of census trivia (Census, Aug. 18) you named Markham, Ont., as the municipality with the highest percentage of visible minorities. In fact, according to the 2006 Census data, Richmond, B.C., is a suburb of Vancouver, with the highest at 69 per cent. *David Andrews, Langley, B.C.*

## Wrinkles rule

Allen Gregg's "Aging is as aging does" (Issue, Aug. 18) is masterful in style as well as substance. Talking of the baby-boom generation's refusal to act old, my wife and I, both in our 50s, went parasailing hundreds of feet over the Pacific Ocean off the coast of Mexico last March. Besides having an absolutely awesome experience, we were tickled pink at the curious glances of Geronos on the beach trying to screw up our faces to do the same. No, don't count us out, not for a long while yet. *George Daniels, Mississauga*

## Peter's plannage

Since our community had power back on in four hours, I was flipping channels the night of the big blackout. I paused when I saw Peter Mansbridge's newscast on the CBC. While he was a bearded and mustachioed kind of warthog, I was very taken with his earthy look. Maybe it was the dimmer lighting that



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enveloped him or the excitement of the moment, but I called my husband in the TV and commented, "Look at Peter Mansbridge! He has a beard!" Wow! I've never seen him look so sexy!" To which my husband raised an eyebrow and replied, "Really?" I later read in "The play of summer" (Mansbridge in the Round, Aug. 18) how last year he shaved it off 15 minutes before air time. Personally, I think his look caught the essence of the moment; we were relaxed, enjoying our summer and looking towards the latest challenges presented to us.

Melanie M. Hall, Cambridge, Ont.

#### Conversations of love

I read Maclean's will provide an equally lucid interview with someone having a diametrically opposed view to gay rights activist John Fisher's (related opinion) "Some MPs are out of touch" (Q&A, Aug. 18). Among other things, Fisher clearly does not have adequate knowledge concerning the religious he refers to, nor is he "the battle won in the courts."

Wafa Khatib, Sudbury, Ont.

In the darker days of our civilization, homosexuals were forced to live the lie that they were the same as everyone else. Medical science has revealed evidence that homosexuality is a genetic variation. This has helped to transfer guilt to those whose ignorance and fear prompts unspeakable crimes against a helpless minority. Today that guilt is helping to blend a subversive portion of our population to another misguided crowd—against truth and our language. A "modification of marriage" is proposed to correct wrongs against same-sex couples, wrongs that are rapidly disappearing through the due process of law. How can forcing everyone to live a new life, that same-sex unions are "the same as everyone else," do anyone any good?

Victor M. Andronico, Coquitlam, B.C.

When it comes to marriage, we must remember that the Church has had absolutely nothing to do with the traditional definition. That was around for thousands of years before religion appeared, and has been adopted by states such as China and Soviet Russia that, being completely atheistic, would not have taken any cues from any religion. True defined marriage is being between two men or two women. That definition



Peter's naturalness raises readers' hackles

the year 2003, when one might reasonably ask if it is time to drop religious fundamentalists, be they Catholic, Protestant or whatever, the right to hold public office? Ed Gilbert, Guelph, Ont.

#### Orth, makes me wonder

I am a 36-year-old woman—too young to have experienced Led Zeppelin as a hot new thing, but old enough (and gal enough) that "Kashmir" to Heaven was my favourite song through most of high school. In their essays on the band's fame ("Record sales and a whole lot less," Aug. 4), Peter Kepennek and Jonathan Durlin caught the last, but missed the romance. Picture a gold-embroidered young rock god holding out his hand and singing, "Hey, lady, younger than the love I need." In real life, it would never work—I mean, lady! And who could ever trust a man with that much hair, such a very exposed chest, and pants not so low? But it wasn't about real life; it was about fantasy. Yes, rock and I've got the love you need! Led Zeppelin appeals to the part of us recognizable to O.H. Lawrence when he wrote of "the blood, the flesh, as being wiser than the intellect."

Kelly Horner, Victoria

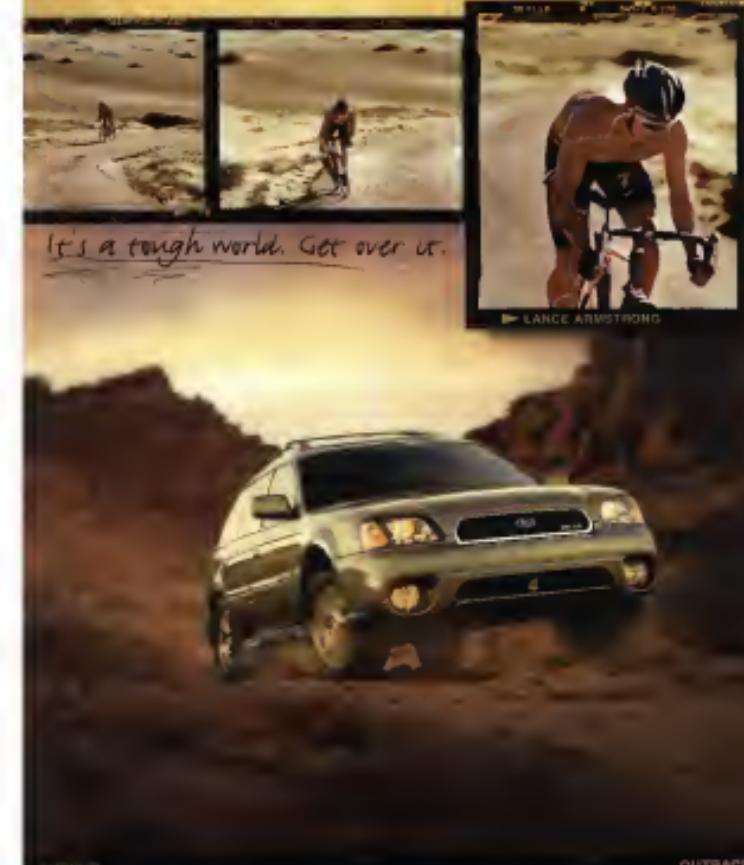
#### Hateful and disputed

In his letter ("Pooh on the West Bank," The Mail, Aug. 4), Leon Schenckroth vilifies Islamists in the West Bank, particularly those of lawless, anarchic who drive Palestinian families from a village but October 11, glorifying the Palestinians. Schenckroth doesn't mention the massacre in lawar on June 20, 2002. A Palestinian terrorist slaughtered Rachel Shabot and three of her children, wounded two of her other children and killed a neighbor who came to rescue them. That was hideous even by the grisly standards of Palestinian terrorism.

Asko Mendelev, Warsaw

I would like to protest the use of the word "disputed" to describe the Palestinian territories (occupied and brutally and illegally occupied by Israel) ("Words, guns and anguish," World, July 21). This designation fits no UN resolutions and is a historically accepted view of the status of these lands. Even the most expansionist and repressive prime minister of Israel, Ariel Sharon, has acknowledged that Israel is an occupying force in Palestine.

PARVASH MAMANI, Toronto



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### THE SPIRIT OF CHAMPIONS

Special Olympians know all about overcoming obstacles. While dealing with a mental disability, they devote hundreds of hours to athletic training every year, often holding down full-time jobs while running households.

But Canada's Special Olympians had to surmount an unexpected hurdle in the form of SARS on the road to the 2002 World Games in Dublin in June. The earlier World Health Organization (WHO) travel advisory warning against visits to Toronto jeopardized a full year of preparation and threw the plans of athletes, coaches and family members into chaos for several weeks. "Things looked grim when the Irish government announced that countries on the WHO's affected list would be banned from the games," says John Byrne, program coordinator with Special Olympics Canada (SOC). "For several weeks we were in wait-and-see mode, despite the fact that no athletes or coaches lived in Toronto."

Eventually, negotiations with the Irish health ministry succeeded, and the Canadian team (60 athletes, 23 coaches and 61 staff, plus 11 family members) was cleared to travel on June 15.

Meanwhile, team members rallied in the face of adversity, notes Byrne, (above, with gym team members, including Ada Chan, front left, who was sponsored by Macmillan's). For the past 13 years, Macmillan's has been a SOC communications partner. "The team really pulled together. All the preparation—mental, as well as physical—paid off with people showing phenomenal strength of mind and resilience."

The athletes received a tremendous reception in Ireland, where they were billeted in the town of Enniscorthy prior to the start of the games. That was followed by the spectacular opening ceremonies at Croke Park, attended by U2, Nelson Mandela, Arnold Schwarzenegger and Muhammad Ali.

The nine days of competition that followed were hugely successful, with the Canadian athletes surpassing their goals and achieving personal bests in all seven sports. "We brought home 162 medals," says Byrne. "The athletes weren't satisfied just to be there—for them, this was the thrill of a lifetime and nothing less than their best would do."

To learn more about Special Olympics Canada, visit [www.specialolympics.ca](http://www.specialolympics.ca). For further information about this article, contact: [behindthescenes@maclean.ca](mailto:behindthescenes@maclean.ca).



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# THE WEEK



## Middle East | Carnage trumps ceasefire

The neo-bombs went off within hours of each other—at the UN headquarters in Baghdad and on a crowded commuter bus in Jerusalem. With them, the best-laid plan for order in the Middle East went up in a plume of metal black smoke. Of the two, it was hard to say which was worse. Crashing a truck full of explosives into the main building of the UN's Iraqi mission and killing 24 shocked the civilized world. Among the victims were Canadian UN workers who were the very symbol of all that was hopeful in a region cursed by ancient hatreds.

But the suicide attack in Israel was equally horrifying. Not only was the carnage—more than 30 dead, including six children, and over 300 injured—but the attack was carried out by a man of the cloth. Rabb. Meir Yosef, a 29-year-old preacher at a mosque in Hebron. On Friday evening he set good-bye to his wife and two young children, donned a vest of dynamite and, it is believed, the apparel of an Orthodox Jew, and then blew himself up on a bus in Jerusalem.

Meir does not fit the usual profile of the suicide bomber as a disaffected young man.



Orthodox Jews  
mourned one of  
a score of victims,  
while Israeli officials  
took revenge in Gaza.

From the refugee camps, but the new reality is that profile is changing, as young victims of Chechen Muslims turn themselves into human bombs. Russia and a growing string of Islamic militants from over 30 nations converge on Iraq in a potent mix of terrorism and territorial pride.

At first, Hizbullah, the largest Palestinian group, dismissed the importance of the raiding as some off-regional. But when Israel's spokesman who had a poor mouth that killed Marwan Barghouti, Abu Shanab and two associates in Gaza City, Palestinian militants shouted an end to the seven-week "ceasefire"—one that had been marked mostly by dead bodies, 35, than real diplomacy.

## ScoreCard

▼ **Smokers:** With 300 million in S.E. Asia caused by香烟—between firms are both of disease, smoking bans renewed in dry winter areas, including London, Shanghai, Paris, Seoul and Hong Kong to a more smoking-prone?

▼ **Iran: Oil:** Oil prices, fueling Iran's economy, and, worse, the country with promises to leave in weeks rather than months, are the latest of the world's leaders of Iranian Regime. Ringer questions for someone who couldn't be found during power blackout, how is anyone to know when he's still the bidding?

▼ **Canada: Banks:** Bank shareholders by spending \$12 billion of Hollinger, majority a personal paper of总理 D. Roosevelt—subject of Hollinger's new book. Unlike in the U.S., the "Rocky Mountaineer" cruise is for losers without a company credit card.

▼ **India:** **Chromatography:** **Garib, Garib, Garib** among Indians who are to U.S. drug firms to give up their rights to a generic version of the drug. The story is set to end as India's new government tries to make its generic drugs look bad. Know what it worked?

▲ **Sleep and seeing:** Province orders Hess, Sobe and Florida map to be closed to the public on Saturday. Despite our best efforts, it's not a good day. Why put neighborhood dogs out of play?

**Quote of the week | "Uncle Georgie is fit as anything. He walks and runs every day. He's the most upset that he lost his boat."** —PAMELLA KIRKWOOD, 94, of George Strait, 75, forced to swim nine kilometers to shore after his boat capsized on Cape Breton's Bras d'Or Lake—a five-hour ordeal.

**WORM WEEK** According to two computer worms and an e-mail-bugging virus called Sodin, most computer systems now corrupt North America. One of the hardest hit was Air Canada, which was forced to cancel flights and endure long lines of angry customers as its check-in system tanked. The airline also had to divert a Toronto-bound plane to Iceland after smoke was detected in the passenger cabin.

**HEAT WAVE** Provost Jacques Chico ordered an inquiry into France's chronified heat system, possibly to care of the elderly, after a three-week heat wave claimed the lives of nearly 14,000, according to an estimate by the country's biggest insurer. The European heat wave also forced Canada's Beer-benders to recall 700 litres issued when air conditioning couldn't cope with the constant 49°C temperatures.

**INQUIRY** David Kelly, the weapons expert whose suicide in July has sparked a judicial inquiry in Britain, told a diplomat friend months ago he would "probably be found dead in the woods." The reason, however, was not for talking to reporters about the Blair government's allegedly inflated case for war, but rather the fact that he had maintained contact with former people in Saddam Hussein's regime and had issued them there would be no war if they co-operated with UN inspectors.

**ARRESTS** Britain arrested former Iranian ambassador to Argentina, Hafez Sabzian, to be extradited for his alleged role in the 1994 bombing of a Jewish community centre in Buenos Aires that killed 85.

Serious war crimes have now induced 44 people in the assassination of former Prime Minister Zoran Djindjic in March.

**AMERICAN JUSTICE** The Chicago-based director of a Muslim charity was sentenced to 11 years in prison for defrauding charities by diverting as much as \$400,000 to Islamic fighters in Chechnya and Bosnia-Herzegovina. The judge dismissed prosecution accusations that he was also a financier of al-Qaeda.

U.S. Attorney General John Ashcroft launched a cross-country rampage to defend a new Patriot Act that would allow inter-



**WHALING** Sailing in the face of an international ban on commercial whaling and threats to trade sanctuaries, Iceland launched a three-month expedition to kill 30 minke whales, ostensibly for the scientific purpose of documenting whale by-catch. While the first fifteen 14-year-olds in Icelandic waters, a sailor cuts open a juvenile minke whose meat will be sold at market.

arrests and cover wiretapping in the fight against terrorism. About 150 U.S. congressmen passed resolutions condemning the proposed law for infringing civil liberties.

West Virginia police were unsure if they were dealing with a drug war or a copycat sniper after three people were killed and another shot from long range at local gun bars and convenience stores.

**LATIN AMERICA** Taking a page from California, right-wingers in Venezuela took to the streets and presented a petition with three



## The Medical Posting

Pregnancy an escape for teenage girls living in poverty

**T**eenage girls who buy home pregnancy tests are often wistful, rather than worried, about being pregnant, according to a Colorado study.

Study author Lisa Kelly, a social worker from the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center in Denver, says these girls tend to live in poor households and experience abuse and neglect at home.

Among 340 girls ages 10 to 19 years who were surveyed at a teen clinic, the 38 per cent who had used a home pregnancy test were less motivated to avoid pregnancy than non-users and were more apt to report they had not used contraception during their last menstruation.

Kelly says the girls were racially and

ethnically diverse, but tended to live in poorer households.

Girls who had used a home pregnancy test were more likely to refuse contraceptives during their clinic visit and were more likely to remain at risk for pregnancy over the next year due to ongoing unprotected sex.

West Nile virus now biggest blood transfusion risk

**W**est Nile virus is becoming the most common viral infection transmitted by blood transfusion in North America.

Based on the U.S. experience in 2002, researchers at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimate that one in 30,000 units of donated blood will contain the virus. The best estimate for Canada is one per 15,000 units, "a very, very high risk," according to Canadian Blood Services. In fact, the risk is higher than that of hepatitis, HIV or other viral infections.

In 2002, there were 22 recorded cases of transfusion-suspected West Nile virus in the U.S. and four in Canada. This is fewer than the numbers would suggest,

**FYI**

In 2003, prostate cancer will continue as the leading form of cancer diagnosed in Canadian men, with an estimated 18,800 new cases. But lung cancer will remain the leading cause of cancer death in Canadian men.

The estimated 10,900 lung cancer deaths far exceed the 4,400 deaths due to colorectal cancer and the 4,200 deaths due to prostate cancer.

(Source: National Cancer Institute of Canada, Canadian Cancer Statistics 2002)

but there was no testing done in the U.S. and it's thought that 80 per cent of infections don't produce symptoms.

Canadian Blood Services began testing donated blood for West Nile virus on July 1, 2003.

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## THE WEEK



**RANSOMED** Fourteen European "independent tourists," three Germans, four Swiss and a Dutchman, shown here at Mali's presidential palace, returned home to political controversy after being held hostage in the Sahara desert by Algerian militants for six months. Germany vehemently denied it paid a ransom to the kidnappers, an Islamic group with alleged links to al-Qaeda, but German diplomats said they paid the equivalent of \$7.5 million "on its own initiative" to resolve the crisis. An earlier group of 17 abducted tourists were freed by Algerian commandos in May.

Seaside businesses are also opposing the popular proposal as a discriminatory levy that might someday be expanded to other luxury items like bottled water.

**WOLVES** A roving wolf pack is biting blotted fur to dozens of children in northen笔尾。Most were maimed while sleeping in the courtyards of their mud huts, raising. Horrifying downcast the company's executive link to Canada as power now shifts to its San Jose, Calif., headquarters. A mere 60 percent of about 880 employees is left in Ottawa, down from 14,000 in its heyday.

**CRIME** In a murder suicide, a Newfoundland doctor and her infant son were found drowned on a beach near St. John's. Dr. Shirley Turner had been appealing extradition to Pennsylvania on charges of murdering her former lover.

After placing a group leaving a bar in St. John's, north of Montreal, a 59-year-old man drove away with a young man **can**

### BY STUART CLARK



beaten in the windshield. Friends gave chase and an hour later found the car on the road, but the 18-year-old man died.

Charged with attempted murder, three teenage girls from Sylvan Lake, Alta., pled guilty to a lesser charge of administering a noxious substance byproduct of a metal smelter with copper sulphide from science class. They face up to 16 months in a correctional facility.

**PRICES** The annual inflation rate dropped to 2.2 per cent, the lowest in a year, leading to speculation that the Bank of Canada will cut interest rates in its next meeting in early September.

**LOGGING** José Straub, the 37-year-old Swiss sporting-founder of JDS Uniphase Corp., the Canadian fibre optics giant that went on a wild bison and bear ride during the tech boom, is retiring. Handing over control of the company's executive link to Canada as power now shifts to its San Jose, Calif., headquarters. A mere 60 percent of about 880 employees is left in Ottawa, down from 14,000 in its heyday.

**WATER** Inlet sheen and the city of North Bay had reached a \$1.2-million settlement with 700 residents who became violently ill after the city's water supply was infected by a parasite in 2001. No one died in the modest, but court documents showed. North Bay itself failed to test its water properly and had built its wastewater plant two kilometers downstream of its sewage plant.

### HEALTH

**PARKINSON'S** New York City surgically bored a hole in the head of a 55-year-old Parkinson's sufferer and slipped in billions of copies of a corrective gene in the first attempt at a genetic solution for the debilitating disease. Twelve patients have signed up for the highly experimental treatment.

**MARIJUANA** British authorities announced nationwide hospital trials to gauge the pain-relieving effectiveness of marijuana.

**PAINKILLERS** Nearly half of Canadian doctors feel emotionally exhausted by their profession, and 13 percent of teaching doctors have contemplated suicide, according to surveys by the Canadian Medical Association and University of Ottawa researchers.

## Mansbridge on the Record



## TUNING OUT THE DEAD

American soldiers keep dying in Iraq—but no one seems to want to hear that

**IT MUST BE** a very long and very quiet 48 hours—the time it takes to fly a grieved United States air force C-5 aircraft from Baghdad through a series of stops to its final destination in Dover, Del. When the C-5 comes up to one of the hangars, a lone person guard of honour awaits, patiently holding American flags, each carefully folded and soon to be draped over the plane's cargo—long aftermath ones.

Dover is home to the Charles C. Carson Center for Mortuary Affairs—the largest Department of Defense Mortuary in the world. America brings its dead soldiers home, and these days, it's busy. Normally, seven people work at the mortuary; in March, when the Iraq war began, there have been as many as 200 on staff. On May 1, George W. Bush, after landing on an aircraft carrier off the California coast, declared major combat operations over—but in the meantime, Americans' coffins keep arriving, likely at a rate of one a day.

Staff members at the mortuary are polite and helpful with phone inquiries. They answer almost any question, just don't ask whether caskets can be present for these C-5 arrivals, because that's where they close the line. Such images can have such an effect on not only emotions, but also support for a conflict that is dragging on much longer than many had expected. And at a cost, in U.S. lives, now 225—and in dollars, non-financial at the hundreds of billions.

One morning recently, before the attention given to the suicide bomb attack on the United Nations mission in Baghdad, I was waiting for more information about a new arrival of U.S. soldiers in Iraq. I watched two newsmen on CNN but was stunned to see that the story, only a couple of hours old at that point, was relegated to a spot behind patters of a day-old underwater racing contest in Italy, and a report on a simple plug extracted by a sheetrock off the Atlantic Coast the previous night. The networks may be

drawn across to some of these telling pictures of the dead arriving back in the United States, but even if they had them, you wonder whether they would give the story of Americans dying in Iraq any more prominence. There seems to be a certain timidity about the flag issue that may be due to something else than that's become apparent in the past few weeks. Viewers are tiring away from news; it's happening across the continent, across the networks, and it's not just the traditional summer doldrums. Non-consumers are either finding their elsewhere, or, simply out-right, finding the grief unappealing, or worse, indolent. There has been a certain proliferation of news in the system since Sept. 11; something doesn't seem to happen in it unless it does, often surpassing the events and atmosphere of that day. These stories are challenging norms for the media. Stories are more complex, more intangible, and more expensive to cover, but the media remain anxious to find ways to tell the ones that are important. They aren't Bob Beyers, Lou Peterson or endearing in the formation of the Puffin Navajo; in short, the sort of stories that an industry would about decline without (just) giving up.

WHEN THE C-5 flies the runway at Dover, maybe some enterprising reporter will find a respectful way to follow, and then follow the flag-draped caskets to an final resting place. Most the family, the friends and the community leaders of the cows that lost a brave soul, and find out how they feel about the conflict that the media couldn't wait to cover when it was all "shock and awe." Whatever we hear, it will probably have a lot more resonance than the "perpetual" way to cover the story—sitting in the Pentagon or the White House briefing room, getting the warmed trash.

DEPORTED Peter Gaita, 90, who once ran two of New York City's roulette clubs, is being deported to Canada after pleading guilty to tax evasion. Gaita, from Cornwall, Ont., admitted that he隐瞒ed US\$1.3 million in state taxes from his businesses.

NETTLED Global TV and rival CTV have notified their dispute over news and/or Beverly Thomson Global chairman Thomson, 59, was under investigation three years earlier when CTV hired her earlier this year.

## Passages

**DECEASED** A Hamilton MP for 22 years, John Munro served under prime ministers Pierre Trudeau in cabinet portfolios in health and welfare, labour, and Indian affairs. After retiring in 1984, Munro was charged with fraud, corruption and other offences relating to his time in office. But the charges were dropped in 1991. Munro, 72, died of a heart attack at his Hamilton home.

**DECEASED** Warden Dennis Flynn, 79, a powerful politician in the Toronto region, died of a heart attack while visiting CFB Petawawa. The former suburban mayor and chairman of the area's metropolitan government survived being shot in the neck after purchasing an Normandy on D-Day.

**DECEASED** Tennis champion Paes Sampath, 32, is leaving a career that brought him 61 singles titles including a record 14 Grand Slams and a No. 1 ranking for six years running (1999-2000). His last match was winning the U.S. Open in 2002.

**DECEASED** Kirby Boulton, 60, a member of the 1960s radical group Weather Underground, was granted parole after serving 22 years in a New York prison. Boulton, who pled guilty to charges relating to a 1981 armed robbery in which two police officers and a Black Guard were killed, was denied parole three months ago.

**DECEASED** Jean Chretien announced that the name of Montreal's Dorval International Airport will be changed to honour Pierre Elliott Trudeau. The official renaming will take place on Sept. 9.

**DEPORTED** Peter Gaita, 90, who once ran two of New York City's roulette clubs, is being deported to Canada after pleading guilty to tax evasion. Gaita, from Cornwall, Ont., admitted that he concealed US\$1.3 million in state taxes from his businesses.

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## Finance | The cost of history

All his life, media icon Conrad Black has been fascinated by the great men of world affairs—Bonaparte, Bismarck, Churchill. A walking encyclopaedia, he can recite the history of British royalty, the papacy and whole cabinets of former Canadian governments, seemingly at the drop of a hat. But it's his obsession with another great figure that's suddenly causing him problems with several of his own key investors.

This fall, the Hollinger chairman, Lord Black of Crossharbour, is to publish a 912-page biography of Franklin D. Roosevelt, Chairman of President, as which he will make the case that FDR was the most important person of the 20th century. An equalable claim, more plausible perhaps than the fact that Black spent \$12.5 million from Hollinger International's kitty to purchase thousands of historical documents that once belonged

to FDR. Many papers with history's paw prints all over them, they add to another of Black's great possessions, a reprinting of an FDR speech at Madison Square Garden.

Certain Hollinger shareholders, however,

were not pleased, citing this as another example of Black treating the public company as his own fief. But like every great man, he was deficit to the last. He told the *Financial Times* of London that he used to hoard money because the \$12 million "was not something I was prepared to spend." And he liked the purchase to buying corporate art, even though the documents aren't on display, adding, "the value today is undoubtedly more than we paid."

He may well be right about that. All his life Black has had the unquenchable desire to buy low and sell high—Murray Ferguson Ltd. and Dominion Steel & Coal come to mind. There is also his fondness to resurrect long-dormant titles like London's *Daily Telegraph* if he has nothing to fear but fear itself.



## UNDER ATTACK IN BAGHDAD

For humanitarian aid workers, Iraq is the most dangerous country in the world

LIKE MANY in the aid community, I was saddened to learn of last week's bombing in Baghdad. At least 24 people, most of them UN aid workers, died when a suicide truck filled with explosives demolished the UN headquarters at the Canal Hotel. Over the years, I, like others who have worked in Iraq, have spent countless hours in the Canal, co-ordinating efforts with UN officials

The raid excluded the United Nations' top envoy to Iraq, Sergio Vieira de Mello, whose UN Secretary General Kofi Annan eulogized as "a servant of humanity." Sergio, the high commissioner for human rights, was in Baghdad to help Iraqis re-establish their administration and rebuild their country—as he had

done several years before with the citizens of Kosovo and East Timor. Also killed were Canadians Christopher Klein-Bedouin from Guelph, B.C., who was UNHCR Iraq's programme co-ordinator, and Gillian Clark of Toronto, who was working for the Christian Children's Fund.

The explosion occurred at 4:30 p.m., a time when overworked and overburdened aid workers, having spent the day at the field, typically are settling in for a long evening at the office. Who could even think about leaving work early when so much

The explosion at the UN headquarters killed at least 24, including two Canadians

helped needed? In the end, it could be argued, that it was the selfish dedication that killed them. Iraq is, without doubt, currently the most dangerous country in the world, which no doubt contributed to the outcome.

Like Christopher, I was in my early 30s when I first worked for UNHCR in Iraq, during the early 1990s. We had no water, electricity, food—but we didn't have American soldiers, amputee or grenade attacks either. Despite frequent visits to Iraq since 1991, I have only recently felt that my efforts to help those in greatest need had turned me into a moving target. During my lamest stat in July, an international aid worker was killed when a grenade was tossed into the front yard

of an aid agency's compound. As a briefing, the U.S. military advised us to avoid driving over paper carts or even paper bags, as they were likely to be "improvised explosive devices." There was never a moment when I did not fear violence. And I know others in the aid community shared my concern.

Such horrendous security conditions in Iraq make it virtually impossible for aid workers to get around, and where you lay your head at night, or which meetings you choose to attend, can feel like a terrifying game of Russian roulette. In that sense, the attack, although reprehensible, will unfortunately not come as a surprise to anyone engaged with humanitarian programmes there. The violence against aid workers has been evolving for weeks. What is surprising, however, is that attacks of this nature are considered par for the course when, in fact, they are a relatively recent phenomenon, the root causes of which are stirring debate within the aid community. The line between humanitarian action and risk may always have all but been erased, and the notion of aid agencies operating in a neutral and safe "humanitarian space" is implicitly becoming the stuff of legends.

This is happening for several reasons. For one thing, there are more aid workers and they are pushing deeper into the world's most dangerous places. Many workers also now being fought by poorly trained rebels and irregular militia. Most of these armed groups don't even understand the concepts of international law, let alone respect it. To that end, aid workers, like other civilians, are becoming instruments of war. Rebels and terrorists believe that by attacking non-combatants, including killing and raping them, they can destabilize governments and, in the case of Iraq, give pause to American occupiers.

But that is only one part of the problem. In Iraq, as in many recent conflicts around the world including Kosovo and Afghanistan, it has become increasingly difficult for aid agencies to clearly separate themselves from the military in the administration of humanitarian assistance. The military is often, appropriately, called upon to provide secu-

rity but, when armies that wage war also escort aid convoys, distribute food and water, maintain schools and establish refugee camps, it is nearly impossible for aid workers to distinguish themselves from the military apparatus. To an armed insurgent, any aid heading out a food packet could be a soldier. And aid workers are paying the price in larger numbers than ever before. Each year, more of them are killed in the line of duty.



A U.S. soldier stands near injured Iraqis after the bombs reached the Canal Hotel

than are international powerhouses.

So aid agencies in Iraq have gone to great lengths to disassociate themselves from the U.S. armed forces. Two days before last week's bombing, the Non-governmental Organisation Coordination Committee in Iraq, a coalition of some 100 international and Iraqi charities, emailed its members a recommended code of conduct. This includes no travelling with members of the armed forces, no travelling in military vehicles or atop to enterprises, no selling aid agency premises, no carrying weapons, and so on. Some international aid agencies, including Oxfam, have refused to receive any funding for their Iraq operation from governments involved in the war-making. But it is a distinct irony that those willing to further destabilize the country.

Some will say that wasn't greater U.S. protection of the UN headquarters in Iraq

Despite many Iraqis' disdain for the organization—which they blame as much as the U.S. for the negative effects of more than 12 years of sanctions—there was still a slight level of respect for the individual workers trying to help Iraq rebuild their country. And no doubt the U.S. itself, perhaps reluctantly, in retrospect, felt safer by not surrounding itself with U.S. soldiers.

None of this is unusual, let alone unique, for last week's despicable act of violence. Those responsible must be caught out and brought to justice. But now is also the time to take stock of how we arrived at this point and how we can enhance the safety of our humanitarian workers in Iraq and around the world.

Christopher Klein-Bedouin was three weeks away from his 33rd birthday when he died in the west attack against the United Nations in 1991. I remember meeting him at the UNHCR offices in Baghdad earlier that year. Canadians have a way of making each other count in the field and the rapport is always instantaneous. Find the peace workers, the do-gooders—this is how we're to make a difference here—and you will find Canadians overrepresented in any hot spot.

In Ottawa, just down the road from the government's residence in Rideau Hall Park, the residence to Canadian aid workers been silent witness to the acres of Canadians who have given their lives in the service of humanity. Before long, and with the permission of their families, please bearing the names of Klein-Bedouin and Clark will be added to the 43 names preceding them, in cluding B.C. nurse and Red Cross worker Hurley Mallay, who was rendered a paraplegic five of her co-workers in Chechnya 1996. They all knew the risks, but none could have been prepared for the sacrifice. Canada's humanitarian workers are a unique bunch whose generosity has touched the lives of millions around the world. They are silent heroes and, as such, rarely acknowledged. Except, tragically, when they die.

Eric Hoskins is a doctor with extensive experience working with the UN and other governmental organizations. He has lived in Iraq more than 10 years.

See old apps combine with new apps.  
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# Can you see it?

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Iraq

## IF AT FIRST YOU DON'T SUCCEED...

Capturing Chemical Ali is still significant, writes ARTHUR KENT

**FIRST**, he was dead. Then alive, then dead again. Finally last week, "Captured Alive" was stamped on the file of Gen. Ali Hassan al-Majid, Saddam Hussein's ruthless eight-hand man and arguably the only substantial survivor, indeed of Saddam, in America's war on Iraq.

At the Pentagon and the White House, spokesman kept down their accounts of the capture of the man known as "Chemical Ali." That was surprising, given the trial of death in the refugee's hands—rare if it is caused by poorly stored or faulty American bombs. The story is that the same U.S. officials who suggested al-Majid be used for war crimes are themselves accused of causing certain detainees hanged or strangled on his orders in Iraq on April 5.

The former boss of Saddam's military apparatus, Chemical Ali's policies in the 1980s led to the death or disappearance of up to 100,000 Kurds, including 5,000 who died in a gas attack on the village of Halabja in March 1988 that earned al-Majid his lesser nickname. If U.S. interrogators can break him, there is little about Saddam's weapons program that Chemical Ali can't tell them.

That's no consolation for the Hensoods, who number among them several of Britain's leading physicians. Two Hensoods sons live in Manchester, England, a British citizen. At 5:30 a.m. on April 5, the family's car collided with that of al-Majid in a deadly, explosive instant when a 500-lb. laser-guided bomb, dropped by a U.S. aircraft, exploded into the house the Hensoods were using for shelter against the war. The target had been the compound next door. A family commands, living nearby, had alerted Majid to the house before. In the first instant, a pair of 16-year-olds who targeted building One bomb almost killed the English spor-

ster on the ground, while the other militiaman turned and struck the Hensoods' home. Later, two more bombs hit the mark.

In the choking dust and rubble, the Hensoods' parson, 72 year old Abdillah, was struggling to free other members of the family. But it was too late for his wife, three of their children, and seven grandchildren. At least five other civilians in the vicinity died too. "Was it necessary to kill 20 people in our street for the sake of one bastard?" Hassen asked when approached by a BBC reporter a few days after the attack.

When I visited the scene on April 15, he was there, helping salvaging belongings from the



Al-Majid, above centre after crushing a Shi'a rebellion in 1991, may cause red faces

now. "It shouldn't have happened," Hassen said. He added: "Ten minutes went by before the second attack. We saw people climb over the wall and run away. They escaped."

The Pentagon was certain they had got their man, but soon some reported sightings of Chemical Ali in Baghdad. In June, Joint Chiefs of Staff chairman Gen. Richard Myers, who had flat characterized that operation as success, allowed that al-Majid might still be alive.

While last week's capture may cause red faces in the Pentagon, the approach of saying as little as possible about the field of raid, and the death it caused, will likely pay off. According to Claudio Corboz, director of International Law for Amnesty International, it would be difficult for any lawyer acting for the themselves to prove the attack falls within the three possible grounds for action, targeting civilians intentionally, acting disproportionately or attacking with absolute carelessness. "The best answer would be an investigation carried out by the United States," says Corboz, "but it's unlikely as a case like this the authorities would elect to do so."

Dr. Firas Abous, afraid of the Hensoods and staying at Baraa's Children's Hospital, wouldn't be surprised by that outcome. "Between Saddam and the Americans," he said of the attack, "there is nothing to choose. We are powerless, we are victims."



# OUT OF CONTROL

Thousands flee their homes as British Columbia endures its most destructive summer of forest fires

**THE STUNNING** natural setting that attracted Dina and Mel Kotur to their home on the edge of Gallagher's Canyon in Kelsown's northeast is the very thing that sent up against them in the dying hours of last Thursday. The fire front of 6,000-plus, like and like, moved on them, as it has to so many places across British Columbia in this summer of flames. None before have so many fires threatened those living on the wildland fringe of B.C. Many discovered to their alarm that nature isn't benign as it may seem. "There's no safety," says Mel, a construction executive, "so being evermore about the run threat of that danger."

With the sky glowing red as wildfire raged through Okanagan Mountain Provincial Park to the south, he decided to leave home Thursday night, just ahead of an evacuation order that moved 10,000 people out by early Friday. Overnight, 11 homes burned. Dina was busy visiting family as she left to find a gathering of papers, jewellery, the works of his wife and her father—both artists—and herself, the Koturs' car. "Things are fragile," he explains, after a hectic night that saw the home spared. "Hauling everyone to O.K., that's the important stuff."

Across the province, 635 fires have forced the evacuation of thousands from the Okanagan, from cowboy country near Kamloops, and in the mountainous Kootenay region of southeastern B.C. By Friday, more than 170,000 hectares of forest had been destroyed in the most devastating and expensive fire year in provincial history. As of Friday, the provincial government had burned through more than \$156.7 million—three times its annual fire suppression budget.

Three pillars have died in two trades in the wild fire fight that are a riveting spectacle of skill and courage. "To lose three people this year is very sobering," says the director of the dangers and the risks that our parks and a lot of us will face on a daily basis," says provincial fire information officer Steve Chapman. Forest crown contractors, hundreds of soldiers and urban firefighters—more than 3,200 total—see wagons the battle against tough odds.

Nowhere are the stakes higher than the populous Okanagan region, where the fire of houses, orchards, vineyards and the peaked of the tourist season hang on the whines of wind and weather. "It's tough to imagine that 10,000 of our citizens have now been evacuated," says Kelowna mayor Gregor Gysi. But he's pasted by what he's seen in such trying circumstances. "Our city, under siege," he says.

## TWO HOT SPOTS

Huge fires rage south of Kelowna and in the McLaren-Burke area, north of Kamloops



"certainly has a population with a lot of eyes." Kotur struggles for composure as he describes the response of the crew and the community as a whole. "Sorry," he says, his voice wobbling. "These guys are just so fantastic. The volunteer, the organization that's in place—it's just wonderful to see."

It was the same scene B.C.—seen at grace, courage and the sort of rugged resilience typified by ranchers Ian and Anja Mitchell of Burnside, 60-km south of Kamloops. The family-run Mitchell Circle Co. has been under threat through most of August. Fire destroyed their spring, right to the south. Some 350 head of their cattle were trapped between spreading flames on the summer range to the northwest—an unknown number are dead. "The fire was so intense," says Ian, "it actually melted the ironies. We've never had, but with the fence and corral burned, it's difficult to herd the surviving cattle onto roads. "The cows have given us instructions about the fire there'll be something burning right beside them and they're not even leaping," says Anja. "If they're not running from the flames, how can we help them?"

The Mitchells aren't fleeing either. Ian, followed by other neighbours, ignored two evacuation orders, running irrigation pipes to houses and setting lawn sprinklers on rooftops. Anja, seven months pregnant, left with their three-year-old daughter, running as soon as she could despite the smoke. The initial fire, started on July 30 by a discarded cigarette, raged north from McLaren, decimating dozens of homes and businesses with it as it spread west—devouring speed and an unworthy note: "People describe it like a 747 packed in the backyard," says Anja.

The Mitchells had their challenges when they fled. Okanagan's a winter, backburns sometimes smother on the brink of snow, their finances already devastated by the previous winter. Ben von Hardenberg, a 33-year-old pilot from Mission, B.C., died two weeks before his wedding date, when his helicopter crashed on Aug. 17 into the flames he was fighting on the western fringe of the Mitchells' land.

The stakes on the ground, too, is enormous. Arthur paid, losses in the McLaren-Burke and Okanagan Mountain park fire climbed more than 60 m to the forest canopy, and spread uncontrollably 90 m in altitude, says Stephen "Mac" MacKenzie, director of the fire retardant and air

The huge blazes beside Okanagan Lake as it raged northward toward Kelowna





where you've got access to and in most cases it's not going to do anything in terms of it," he says. That same fire, started an Aug. 16 by lightning, became a "double-headed monster," to use official jargon, as winds pushed it north to Kleskun, or south toward the pristine perfect village of Harrison.

It's the potential for massive loss of property and life that sets this year's fire season apart—and causes some to wonder if the B.C. government could have managed the risk. Provincial Auditor General Wayne Stordahl warned two years ago of the growing threat of "interior fires," where human development abuts a natural forest—already over-clad with combustible and invasive non-native cheatgrass and fire-prone trees. In California, New Mexico and Australia, too, the near-mythical loss of British Columbians for their forests seems to be a contributing factor. Not only are they building flammable little pieces of suburban amid the trees, but a case can be made that the province's woods are being filled with fuel now. Logging provincial parks to remove dead and big infested trees, and expanding prescribed burns to clear forest underbrush, have been political no-go zones. Decades of suppressing the natural cycle of fire also added to what Stordahl warned was a "significant buildup of flammable fuel."

Forest Minister Mike de Jong has signalled a willingness to consider fire fighting with tough loss remedies as controlled burns to limit further disastrous fire flares. Last week, the province hurriedly created a special fire department with the power to instantly deploy



The Mitchell's charred land. Dodo, its building falls to the flames north of Kamloops

equipment and people to fight surface fires. Kamloops forest manager Gary Barber is part of the ongoing battle, running a crew of 75 on fires across the B.C. Interior in the worst conditions he's seen in his 23 years in the woods. That there he sends the fire to analysis at the stakes. "You never heard much about those fires and there were houses out there," he says, as though unvoicing the eternal puzzle about areas in the forest. "When it's just burning bushes, and no one sees it, it's not a big deal." But when houses fall this summer, they instead make a sound. A dying roar, as Anna Mitchell puts it, as loud as a T-97.

## ONTARIO'S BLACKOUT BLUES

The lights are back on—for now, at least—but big questions remain

**THERE** are few things as mordant as a deflated, silent midway. So when the Canadian National Exhibition opened last week, Toronto's a whole week later. The losses: Aug. 14, blackouts had delayed the launch of the venerable Ex by five days, and when the SunDome finally began spinning, it seemed like a sign. "It shows that we've persevered," said Karen Gilby, passing beside a cotton-candy stand with her three-year-old daughter, Katherine. "We survived the blackout."

So far, for the dark remains a potent force in Ontario these days—even with the lights on. Hydro One's chief and political leaders warned for days of rolling blackouts should consumers fail to conserve during the system's fragile rebirth. And watching a carousal from being unable to a disastrous history you never knew when some self-appointed electricity cop, or eight-eyed TV crew, might show up to lecture you. Bob Blasenrath, a province's public safety and security minister, oddly suggested pressuring people who failed to conserve during previous outages. "I think there's some coming needed," he said.

Dramatic measures aside, the angst is serving a purpose of sorts, forcing long-overdue attention on a system that's quite plainly flapped, costing 50-million Canadian and American dollars a day. The scale of the outage left many people quizzical. So, too, did Ontario's long-drawn-back to fall power while the affected states largely regained generating capacity within 24 hours, consumers north of the border were forced into conservation mode, dimming their lights and keeping air conditioning for all but the most sultry weather. The reason? Eight of the province's 13 operational nuclear reactors had gone into full shutdown after the outage, rather than "sitting" in a stand-



by status that would permit a quick return to production.

By week's end, the eight reactors were back-on-line. Still, the long, hot hours waiting for full power had added a sense of urgency to investigations of the incident. Early signs pointed to a coal-fired power plant in Cleveland, which went off-line at about 8:30 p.m. the day of the outage. Soon after, a series of nearby transmission lines went down, sucking away power throughout the Lake Erie region and effectively reversing the flow of current. That fluctuation, in turn, set off computerized safety mechanisms in generating plants, and the chain reaction was on: at 4:12 p.m., shutdowns spread as lightning struck throughout the eastern seaboard, darkening town after town, county after county.

This "outaging" effort will be the prime focus of a joint Canada-U.S. task force looking into the blackout. Why, for instance, did alarm mechanisms fail to alert the Ontario operator in time to acknowledge that system from the rest of the grid? How did authorities in Ontario respond to ominous-looking voltage fluctuations earlier in the day, of which were reported by at least two different agencies monitoring the grid? "We want to

the DND swing line action four days later than planned because of the power outage

have a thorough understanding of what happened," said Herb Dhaliwal, the federal natural resources minister. "Transparency of the system is important."

The outage has also exposed Ontario's growing dependency on imported power. Before the blackout, the province briefly produced the 25,000 megawatts typically needed on a hot day. Mid-week, with temperatures climbing to 52°C, the system could generate only 21,400 megawatts during peak hours. Ontario was forced back to import well, arranging 1,100 megawatts of power to be shipped from Quebec and other provinces.

The shambles has some critics calling for a massive investment in domestic power generation: more coal, local natural-gas-powered plants, and billions in upgrades to nuclear facilities. As such, a large supply increase will only spur consumption, which has steadily climbed 1.6 per cent in the last decade. "Increasing capacity isn't the whole answer," said Peter Love, executive director of the Toronto-based Canadian Energy Efficiency Alliance. "Allowing conservation and demand to increase without control is, in

any case, really quite silly." Love's industry-supported group is among those calling for efficiency incentives, such as a recent California program giving consumers a further 30-per-cent break on their power bill if they cut usage by 20 per cent. But it also argues that hydro companies need the ability to pass on the costs of investment to the consumer—especially in an industry subject to price caps, like the 4.8-cent-per-kilowatt-hour currently in effect in Ontario.

Either way, the outlook calls for rough times, with a resurgence against fossil-fuel-based plants. Back at the CNEx, Edwina Dodding again tried to be upbeat as she ushered her sons Bill, 10, and Ben, 12, into the air-conditioned confines of the National Trade Centre. The family had made the 45-kilometre drive from Milton, despite fears that another outage would strand them. To their surprise, they were greeted by uncharacteristically police cameras. "I guess they have to be if they want to make up for the money they lose during the blackout," Dodding observed.

No such as silver lining, to be sure. But any good news is welcome in post-blackout Ontario. And it's a lot better than thinking about the electrical storm ahead. ■

IT'S NOT THE kind of crowd given to clowns, pianists, or burning brands. Grieving, neatly pressed, well-mannered, they file up patiently at the open microphones. The only interruptions the featured speakers have to contend with are bursts of applause and the odd shout of "Amen!" But on a humid Wednesday evening on the dead of summer, a couple of hundred people have gathered in a community hall on the outskirts of Orillia, Ont., because they are determined to launch a counter-movement. Things have been changing too fast in Canada and they've finally had enough. These people are mad as hell and they're going to send a political signal.

"Look who's at the door now," shout Tracie Entraloupe, the evening's MC. It's the ninth town hall meeting on same-sex marriage that the group, Equipping Christians for the Public Square, has organized since

with approval. "My dignity is being offended on the basis of my sexual orientation. I'm not a prude but I find it disgusting. I find it vile." The views of a day, vocal minority and the courts that support them are fundamentally altering Canadian society for the worse, says the preacher. It's time to fight back. "Either we live unabashedly for Christ today, or die in the shadow," he proclaims. On cue, the crowd rises to its feet. Then heartfelt clapping fills the hall for long minutes.

Murray Calder, the local Liberal MP, sits in the hourglass at the front of the hall, wearing the look of being annoyed favoured by career politicians. His stance, against his government's decision to co-operate with more than a dozen Ontario and British Columbia and several marriage rights to gays and lesbians across Canada, wins sympathy, but probably not the votes of those assembled before him. At the open

# BACKLASH

## WHY DOES HALF OF THE COUNTRY BELIEVE SAME-SEX MARRIAGES SHOULDN'T BE LEGAL?

mid-June, they're a strong 94-against—one in each of Ontario's 45 ridings. "The homosexual activists have turned the public into their bedroom and they want us to sit by and say nothing. But shouldn't we have equal rights to oppose their lifestyle?" Renato, a dapper-haired 34-year-old pastor from Jordan Station, near Niagara Falls, is baring his soul. The crowd purrs

relish, the disapproval and distaste over Ontario's plan is extreme. "Why can't we get someone to present a bill to protect the church?" asks one woman. Calder laps up the atmosphere—everything from amending the Constitution to making marriage the exclusive preserve of religious institutions—that he and other diehard Liberals (50 have come out against the bill) have dia-

My dignity is being offended; Entraloupe (bottom right) said in drips and drabs



## A CLERGY DIVIDED

**THE SAME-SEX MARRIAGE DEBATE REVEALS SOME FUNDAMENTAL SPLITS IN THE RELIGIOUS COMMUNITY**

posed. "The law proposed by the justice minister will be political suicide in many parts of the country," Calder told the crowd.

The backlash against the pending legislation appears to be growing, and was recently a point of discussion at the Liberal caucus meeting held in North Bay, Ont., last week. There were a few passionate points in support for the changes over the last two months, with the country's conservative split on the question—49 per cent for, 49 per cent against. Minorities in Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, and Ontario now oppose redefining marriage. On the international stage, George W. Bush has moved about a constitutional amendment to prevent similar legal victories in his country. John Howard, the Australian prime minister, has ruled out same-sex unions because they do nothing to support "the survival of the species." And the Pope's worldwide effort to Catholic parishes to vote against the extension of marriage rights to gays and lesbians has turned up the referendum heat as adherents like Prince Minister Jean Chretien and his likely successor, Paul Martin.

MPs across Canada are reporting a range in letters, emails and phone calls on both sides of the debate gear up for the return of Parliament next month. In Orangeville, a town of 26,000 where very strict baptistical divisions, emotions are also running high, and most often against the changes. "You walk the streets and it's nothing to have

**HOW DARE YOU RAISE YOUR VOICE, THEY SAY. WELL, THE CHURCH IS A COMMUNION OF SAINTS AND SINNERS. EVERY SAINT HAS A PAST AND EVERY SINNER HAS A FUTURE. I WILL NOT ALLOW PEOPLE TO TRY TO SILENCE THE VOICE OF THE GOSPEL BECAUSE OF THE PROBLEMS WE'VE HAD."** — FRED HENRY, BISHOP OF CALGARY

## OLD TESTAMENT (King James)

**Leviticus 18:13** "If a man also be with mankind, as he liveth with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination: they shall surely be put to death."

**Rabbi Akiva Sereis, Shlomo Shlomo Synagogue, Vicksburg, Miss.** "The traditional understanding of the text, which it holds, is that it condemns homosexual practices. It does not condone homosexuality. You only have power over what you do, not who you are."

**Rabbi Dovin Lieberburg, Tiferet Emanu El, Toronto.** "Meditating between Jewish tradition, contemporary understandings of human sexuality and an ongoing search for meaning, many liberal Jews confront this passage and no longer believe it to be binding."



some pull you off to the side and say, 'What the heck are you going to do in Ottawa?'" Calder says in an interview at the local Legion. "The only thing I can compare it to is how people felt about the gun registry."

At the next table, a group of members are enjoying late-afternoon drafts and smokes. William Kelpe, the branch president, and proud D-Day vet ("I landed in Normandy on June 6, 1944, at 7:20 in the morning on Sword Beach"), is adamantly opposed to same-sex unions. "Marriage is made for

men and women to procreate, and how are you going to get two quarks to procreate?" he says. "It's not my cup of tea." Bob McNaull, a retired lawyer, chimes in. "I'm against gays, you can quote me on that. If they want to live together that's fine, let them, but they shouldn't get the sanction of marriage." Another, more public member of the party notes that neither gentleman is speaking in an official Legion capacity.

Both suggesting an overall split in public opinion may, however, the real lines being drawn in this debate—patriotism ones.

Two-thirds of people 55 and older oppose same-sex marriage, while the same percentage of voters 34 and younger support it. Matthew Mendelsohn, the director of the Canadian Opinion Research Archive at Queen's University, says he can't recall any other public policy issue that has cleaved so strongly along age lines. "I think this issue is symbolic for a lot of people. It considers a whole bunch of worries about values around one question," he notes. "It sounds like a threat to their entire system of beliefs." The speed with which same-sex marriage has gone from being an impossible-to-imagine reality caught many Canadians off guard. Some voters now seem to be coming around for someone to blame for the rapid changes.

Among the angriest and most confused are those who oppose homosexuality on religious grounds. They remember that has, in living memory, gone from

## NEW TESTAMENT (King James)

**Romans 1:27** "And moreover also the men, leaving the natural use of the members, turned in their lusts one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly."

**John Stachowicz, professor of theology at the University, Regent College, Vancouver.** "Paul is styling when a society refuses to follow God's prescriptions for a healthy society, you see a different kind of breakdown, and one of the most obvious is: confusion as sexual relationships go."

**Ber Steven Cherven, executive minister, Wesleyan and Free, United Church, Toronto.** These passages "have been used to be excessively threatening to homosexual persons. The word of God lies in the witness of Jesus Christ, who upheld mutually respecting relationships."

## THE QURAN (Everyman)

**Surah 7:18-19** "We also sent last when he said to his people, come ye to me, I will show you that I am your Lord. . . . Come ye to me, present of unseemly. . . . And when I said to them, 'I am your Lord, . . . then they said, 'We do give you, to us to eat.'

**Muhammad Selman, former president, Islamic Society of North America, Dallas, Texas.** "This passage speaks for itself. You are more having sexual relations with men instead of women, and that is your transgression. The people of Lot were destroyed."

**Padil Alami, founder and director, Al-Firdaus Foundation, Markham, Ontario.** "The Quran does not condone homosexuality or same-sex behaviour, but rather condemns those who turn their backs on the oppressed, like the vast majority of homophobic Muslim scholars."

being faith-based to secular, and in their opinion is now urging an all-out "We'll find this legislation reprehensible," says Saeed Khan, the Vancouver-based chairman of the Muslim Canadian Federation. Despite Ontario's assertion that the proposed changes will not clash with religious freedom, B.C.'s 66,000-strong Muslim community worries that its members could ultimately be forced to marry same-sex couples. "On one side they talk about the Charter of Rights, but religion have their rights as well," says Khan.

Bishop Fred Henry, the outspoken leader of Calgary's Catholic community, says he's too ill at ease with the proposed legislation. "I'm afraid they're showing us a bone and saying, 'Go away! Keep quiet!'" The bishop, who recently made headlines for suggesting Christians and other politicians who support same-sex marriage are "putting their souls in peril" if they are making their eternal salvation, if they were to kill the bill, it's up to them," he told Maclean's, believes no one has the right to interfere with a sanctified rite that protects all existing forms of government. And he's fed up with accusations of intolerance and bigotry frequently levelled at those who oppose a more inclusive definition of matrimony. "I'm getting 100-電話 on this subject, most in favour of my position, but about one in 20 is filled with hate," Henry says. "How dare you raise your voice," they say. "What about the Crusades, or Caliph, or clergy sexual abuse?"

Well, the Church is a communion of saints and sinners. Every saint has a past and every sinner has a future. I will not allow people to try to silence the voice of the gospel because of the problems we've had."



**"WE FIND THIS LEGISLATION REPREHENSIBLE. THEY TALK ABOUT THE CHARTER OF RIGHTS, BUT RELIGIONS HAVE RIGHTS AS WELL."**

— NIZAMUDDIN KHAN, IMAM OF THE MASJID IN CANADIAN FEDERATION

rage. And a number of Catholic priests have begun to publicly question the "Vancouver referendum" opposite to gap and gay bath unions. There is a nascent support group for gay Muslims in Toronto, and an American man has started a "Open To All" mosque in New Orleans. In the Jewish community, the conservative movement increasingly opposes Ontario's changes, but a coalition of 25 reform synagogues is in favour of the proposed law. Lindsay bat Joseph, rabbi at Edmonton's Temple Beth Or, says she is ready to join some sex one

play in a commitment ceremony, but both Jews and men believe in good standing of the synagogues. "The Reform movement has a philosophy of evolving dialogue with our traditions and practices, and daring to challenge our beliefs," she says. "I have one gay congregation and I want for them what I want for myself: a nice Jewish boy."

The main arguments advanced by opponents of same-sex marriage is that, by allowing gay and lesbian couples to wed, the courts and the government are discriminating the nation. Already under serious challenge from legal advocates and same-sex partners, traditional marriage will lose even more of its special, sacred appeal, they say. David Matas, the Toronto attorney who narrated 1987 *Handy Street*, Canada's most enduring and successful religious television program, retired from his acting career last month and inde-

## WHERE THE OPPOSITION IS

% AGAINST ALLOWING SAME-SEX COUPLES TO MARRY

INDIVIDUAL-CONFIDENTIAL ACCOUNTS WITHIN 10 PERCENTAGE POINTS FOR LARGEST 2003 REGIONAL SURVEYS. OTHER REGIONS SURVEYED ARE UNAVAILABLE.



voting himself to rallying a position to the proposed changes. "It's not a big thing in one sense, but it may be the straw that breaks the camel's back," says MacIntyre. "By isolating the government, we will water down the strength of the heterosexual union, particularly among heterosexuals, who will not work hard at their relationships in the future." There will be more single-parent families, increased child poverty and social problems, he predicts. As MacIntyre observes, no one can prove or disprove his thesis.

Those searching for a so-called "separateness-equal" solution, however, may be disappointed. Egged, the right group that backed the marriage challenge, has backed such proposals as total separation laws. As MacIntyre, an Alberta Conservative, observes, the other counterparts in the United States, have shown little inclination in recent years to endorse the concept of distinct categories of right for different groups. Ottawa has rejected the idea of adding such a question to its Supreme Court reference—the justices have already been asked if Parliament has the exclusive authority to change the definition of marriage and to rule on the balance between gay rights and religious freedom. Patrick Morison, dean of York University's Osgoode Hall law school, says he would be surprised to see the separate suddenly end up against the prevailing legal biases. "Nothing is inevitable with the courts, but certainly there has been a very strong trend in decisions over the past five to seven

years to recognize and give effect to rights for gay and lesbians."

But if the legal outcome seems predictable, the political timetable is not. The Supreme Court will not hand down its opinion on the draft legislation before this winter or the earliest, meaning the bill is unlikely to come up for a vote until well into 2004—an uncomfortably close, farより winning deadline for the next general election. In the meantime, opponents will continue efforts to sway public and political opinion. There are already several grassroots anti-polygamy Web sites trying to coordinate protests, meetings and proper rallies across the country. Tim Dooling, an Ottawa activist and lifelong Liberal, who organized the "National Marriage Day" rally that drew 6,000 people to Parliament Hill last week, says he believes

that it is still time to force Ottawa's hand. "The judges are coming this country upside down. Somebody has to do something about it," he says. "This government has become lazy, smug and arrogant. They need to be taught a lesson."

At the Osgoodeville town hall, speaker after speaker heads to the microphone to make the same point. Many of them rail against the "gay agenda" and voice terror about where it will all end: adoption, legalized polygamy, the Bible being declared "hate literature." Rather Scott, a university and Sunday school teacher from nearby Durdale, bemoans down in tears. "The direction this country is going, I fear for my kids. I fear for my grandchildren." Chanting in the foyer after the meeting ends, Scott gets his gold wedding band. He made up his mind to fight same-sex marriage following a discussion with a group of teens at his church last spring. "What really opened my eyes was that all of them and they believed homosexuality was OK," he says with wonder. "They got that from their schools. They're being brainwashed that it's just another choice." Like many people questioned at the rally, Scott doesn't really know any gay relatives. But he feels he knows what God wants him to do about them. "Our duty is to love everyone, even if we can't love what they do," he says. In a debate that increasingly hinges on intolerance, same-sex marriage questions his definition of that noble emotion.

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**"WHAT REALLY OPENED MY EYES WAS THAT ALL OF THEM SAID HOMOSEXUALITY WAS OK. THEY GOT THAT FROM THEIR SCHOOLS."**

— RICHIE SCOTT OF DURDALE, ONT.

## LINES OF DISAGREEMENT

WHO'S AGAINST AND WHO'S FOR: THE TWO SIDES IN THE GAY MARRIAGE DEBATE HAVE DISTINCT PROFILES



SEGMENTS OF THE POPULATION MORE LIKELY TO OPPOSE SAME-SEX MARRIAGE ARE: aged 35 and up (33%), men (54%), lacking high school diplomas (66%), and earning less than \$30,000 annually (55%).

LESS LIKELY TO OPPOSE IT ARE: aged 18-34 (34%), women (44%), university grads (36%), and earning more than \$60,000 (42%).

ROMAN CATHOLIC VIEWS—58% FOR, 46% AGAINST—NEARLY THE NATIONAL AVERAGE (48% PRO AND CONS).

## "WHY SHOULD WE HAVE TO CALL IT SOMETHING ELSE?"

Richard Sargeant and Robert Lawrence went to a Alberta registry office in downtown Calgary in mid-August with a simple request: could they please apply for a marriage licence? Sargeant, 45, and Lawrence, 40, who have lived together as a couple for 23 years, knew from the get-go what the answer would be. With television cameras on, they crossed the soot, holding hands, and entered the offices of the Alberta Human Rights Commission, where they promptly lodged a complaint, claiming they had just been discriminated against on the basis of sexual orientation.

The following evening, sitting at the dining room table in their suburban Calgary home, the two men described the very different responses they'd braved with curiosity-generated. Sargeant, an adult education teacher at a private college, recalled with enthusiasm about the positive feedback he got from his employees, of workers and students, as well as family members and friends—especially former colleagues at Valco, Lawrence, a residential care worker who identifies people with developmental disabilities as well as their families. Earlier at the time, at a neighborhood grocery store, an elderly man had commented to him, "we recognized one from the TV," said Lawrence. "He stopped me and called me a faggot."

The flat effect of Lawrence's 5 voice speaks volumes: gay hating is something the couple have long endured. Last year, Lawrence, a previous employee, illustrated a legal challenge that helped can

vince the Alberta government to extend our gay partners benefit to same-sex partners. For months after news, says Lawrence, he and Sargeant received death threats. "You f\*\*\*ed up your voice mail," reports Lawrence, "and there would be a message saying, you fucking f\*\*\*ed up. I'm going to kill you!"

Undaunted, the couple decided it was time to take another public stance, this time to support gay marriage. Alberta-born and bred, they are particularly ailed at Premier Ralph Klein's view that, if Ottawa persists in its head on legalizing same-sex marriage, it'll invoke the Constitution's so-called notwithstanding clause to exempt his province. "What are we supposed to do?" says Sargeant. "Move to



Lawrence and Sargeant say marriage by any other name is diminishing

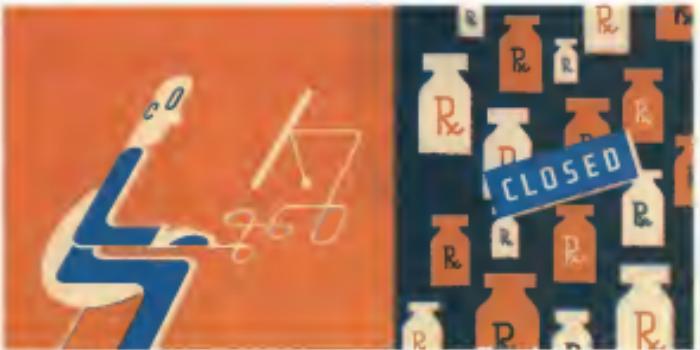
a soldier's previous life, we can get married?" So why, I grew up here, I like it here, it's home."

But many believe that if their reasons for wanting to get married were properly understood, the vast majority of Canadians would support it. That is to do with ensuring they have the same legal rights as heterosexuals, such as, including full pension and health care benefits as well as a say in medical decisions should one of them become incapable of giving informed consent for treatment. The letter to Klein's office, if Ottawa persists in its head on legalizing same-sex marriage, will invoke the Constitution's so-called notwithstanding clause to exempt his province. "What are we supposed to do?" says Sargeant. "Move to

another province, sit there and get married?" he says. "I want Richard making decisions for me if I'm critically ill, that's something you do for the person you love, and care about."

Canadians will likely be dealt with a shot of changing the traditional definition of marriage—perhaps by recognizing same-sex marriage as another name?" "No," says Sargeant, "but why should we have to call it something else?" It's demeaning. "As far as legal distinctions go, gay marriage is not by some criteria, why is that an issue, the bulk of religious organizations are not forced to sanction anyone. They're not discriminatory," he says. "I don't know why people feel so threatened," says Sargeant. "Nothing we are asking for is going to change anything for anyone else. I really don't see this as a bad thing or says a bigoted."

BRANDON MERRIMAN



OVER THE PAST 2½ years, it has brought hundreds of jobs and a sense of security to many small towns suffering from drought and the closure of the U.S. border to trade. Now, barely up and running, Manitoba's flourishing Internet drug business is living under the shadow of the debt crunch. Online pharmacies across Canada are seeing \$450 million to \$1 billion worth of drugs a year, say industry watchers, about \$300 million of that from the 60 operations in Manitoba. But the big, multinational drug companies don't relish seeing these small names at their pushout door. A year ago, sales were up 30 per cent less than their retail peers in the U.S. The pharmaceutical giants, says Winnipeg lawyer John Meyers, who speaks for the pharmacies, are trying to put the Canadian operations out of business by starving them of drug supplies.

Advertisers who can't afford or don't want to pay U.S. prices have been flocking to the cheaper Canadian websites they started offering drugs at the Internet at Canada's regulated, lower prices. March 2008. All was not causal, many of the largest brand-name suppliers are moving into boycott mode. So far, says Meyers, they include GlaxoSmithKline (maker of Paxil and Sibutramine), AstraZeneca (Losec and Neurim), Wyeth (Effexor and Prozac), and Pfizer, the world's largest (Lipitor and Aspirin). "Merck from (Bayer and Vioxx) will be next," says Darren Jorgenson, owner of one of Manitoba's largest e-pharmacies, CanadaMedi. cont.

## CUTTING OFF SUPPLIES

Will the big drug companies kill the Internet pharmacies?

"When that happens, over 45 per cent of the pharmaceuticals we sell will no longer be available. This will kill our industry."

Jorgenson says e-pharmacies cannot negotiate with seniors only to generic drugs. That's because most of their clients want the patented drugs, which offer them big savings. And the Canadian operations are still able to make a profit on them because they buy their supplies in Canada, where federal regulations keep prices much lower than in the U.S. free market. The Manitoba operations failed in the spring to convince the Competition Bureau of Canada's defense. Glaxo's hogey: "But they haven't given up. "Now that more drug companies are involved, "says Meyers, "it may be possible to convince the bureau to look at this as lessening competition in a distinct Canadian market." Also under consideration:

using the boycotting computer, says Colin MacArthur, a lawyer for the Manitoba International Pharmacists Association.

MPA president Ken Throckmorton says some of Manitoba's smaller e-pharmacies, from the so-called "solo" outlets where small Internet businesses can manage their retail operations, will soon shut down. In the longer run, if the entire online industry had to darken its windows, Manitoba's rural economy would face a devastating hit. The Internet pharmacies, mainly based in small towns, provide more than 1,000 jobs for people who would otherwise be hard-pressed to find work locally in Manitoba. For instance, a community of 2,400 about 200 km west of Winnipeg, 200 people work for MediPlan (RxNorth.com), the largest employer in town and one of the largest e-pharmacies in Canada.

With new business, MediPlan has built a \$1-million-worth cause and under-contract in the town of Niverville, 20 km south of Winnipeg. But the new facility remains unoccupied in the uncertain business climate. Before the bust with the drug giants began, there was talk of more than 200 new jobs in Niverville. Now, the company intends to open the building in September with only 25 to 35 new people. Niverville's mayor, Gordon Duran, says that's a setback for the town, but he takes comfort from a biblical precedent: "David slew Goliath," says Duran, "and I believe the Internet pharmacies will prevail." ■

Alan Greenspan, the much-missed former director of the Fed, knows what it means when a crash hits. As a shrug. So he's shrugging the burden of recession less bearable for most of the deeply indebted—consumers, corporations, and governments—by driving down short-term interest rates to near Depression levels. Long-term rates have followed short-term rates in the race to the



## WHEN ATLAS SHRUGS

Other major economies around the world are now contributing to global recovery

IT'S TIME TO END U.S. economic isolationism. For too long, Americans behaved as if the rest of the world didn't matter. Those arrogant Americans act as if they are the only major industrial economy that has a growth strategy, and it's up to them to prevent a global recession. What a contrast to the European and Japanese! No wonder they've been delighted to see America in the U.S. No wonder politicians and pundits worldwide warn of the perils from America's go-it-alone attitude.

Although Canada's data yield no note in denouncing American isolationism, the American determination to grow the U.S. economy through high-powered domestic stimulus provided an almost irresistible demand for the commodities, cars, car parts, and technology that Canada produced. Result: the Canadian economy has outperformed the U.S. economy for the past four years, as American industry focused on outsourcing more and more of its production abroad. (Yes, China also won big from the decay of the once-proud U.S. car and steel industries, but that's another story.)

By generally accepted estimates, the U.S. economy, which is less than one-quarter of the world's economy, has accounted for more than half of total global economic growth since 1996. The U.S. has been the Attila supporting the economic globe. Moreover, the U.S. "boomer" has been driven by just two sectors—consumer spending and technology—telecoms, capital investing. So what can Attila do now, when economies are hemorrhaging to and (in millions of cases) beyond the list, and the technology and telecom industries are in recession?

Alan Greenspan, the much-missed former director of the Fed, knows what it means when a crash hits. As a shrug. So he's shrugging the burden of recession less bearable for most of the deeply indebted—consumers, corporations, and governments—by driving down short-term interest rates to near Depression levels. Long-term rates have followed short-term rates in the race to the

bonfire in April and May, as investors responded to gloomy economic news and Greenupian musings on the threat of deflation. Bond markets shuddered joined in the desperate pursuit of yield through a deepening gloom. The most quoted reason contrasted to the Morgan Stanley's Stephen Roach, who had long predicted a "double-dip" recession.

Then summer arrived. The Bush tax cuts lacked on, combining with these low-level interest rates made for what may have been Washington's last bulwark against a deflationary downturn. One of history's biggest bond sell-offs came out of the summer heat. Even as a bond bull market had been steadily tested with a right-hand scenario of burgeoning economic growth. A vision of fast unfolding economic per-

**MOST FORECASTERS**  
(including me) assumed that China had been hit by SARS almost as hard as Toronto. Not so, as implied by the more robust Chinese economic statistics, experts. They say a strong and unexpected rise in exports to China helped

China end up with the anomalous chart growth had remained strong through the second quarter. Most forecasters (including me) assumed that China had been hit by SARS almost as hard as Toronto. Not so, as implied by the more robust Chinese economic statistics, experts. They say a strong and unexpected rise in exports to China helped

China would be, of course, bondholders' hell, and they bailed mostly for the exits. The Fed (and other central banks) kept short-term rates at bargain-basement levels, but other interest rates soared. What was going on?

Maybe it was the suggestion of better economic activity coming from some very unlikely places. German Chancellor Gerhard Schröder announced an economic program that means, in effect, he was joining the European Union's fiscal Stability and Growth Pact that requires him to restrict government deficits to three per cent of GDP. Not only was he announcing significant cuts not at a time of big deficits, but he was going to rely on the nation's greatest pension and welfare schemes. When the biggest and most powerful European industrial union, IG Metall,

abandoned a major strike in eastern Germany in June, business sentiment indicators leapt. IG Metall had never, never had to give in to an economic reality before. The German stock market became the strongest performer in the industrial world, one that had long seemed incapable as a Rolling Stone on ice in Baghdad.

Another unlikely rockstar performer emerged across the Pacific, as investors began to assess the implications of a sustained growth in Japanese corporate profitability. Almost unnoticed, Japan has been delivering powerful productivity gains, after years in which Japan, like, kept on paying off whether it deserved or not. Some prominent global economic forecasters began raising their growth estimates for Japan—slight from the non-existent to the moderately modest.

China arrived in with the anomalous chart growth had remained strong through the second quarter. Most forecasters (including me) assumed that China had been hit by SARS almost as hard as Toronto. Not so, as implied by the more robust Chinese economic statistics, experts. They say a strong and unexpected rise in exports to China helped

White investors ran on long-term bonds were climbing worldwide, lower prices for bonds—corporate, municipal, short-term, long-term. Yes, the price rises for these commodities were not on the scale of the boom to long-term intermediates, but they all came at once, even though these metals serve different markets. The metals of leading basic metal companies staged strong rallies, confirming that the metals' price increases were no mere blips. Meanwhile, concern about a sharp drop also abated, suggesting that world trade was picking up.

Asia is also flexing its muscles, thanks to the steward of its auto, but the financial problems of states and local governments (as displayed in a style by California) will make the their struggle. The rest of the world must pickup the slack, now that America's economic underpants are falling.

That may be happening—evident in the Hollywood couldn't write a better escape story. Maybe The Arnold figured that out and wants to be a superhero for the credits to roll when better times arrive. ■

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# KEEPING UP TRADITION

In Lagos, tribal chiefs still matter, writes MICHEL ARSENEAULT

**FEW LARGE AFRICAN** cities have retained their tribal chiefs. They were generally sidelined after many of the country's various dialects declared independence in the early 1960s. Some chiefs were close away with for having best their colonial masters' treatment, others for opposing the federation. But Lagos, Nigeria's African language, is an exception. The Yorubas, the main ethnic group of southwestern Nigeria, and the second largest of the country's more than 150 ethnic groups, still follow their traditional leader, the oba, as an institution to be reckoned with. "The oba is to the Yorubas what Queen Elizabeth II is to the English," says Oba Elegushi, a rice vendor and self-proclaimed "father" of the suns of Lagos Island, the thudding heart of the city of 13.4 million.

Oba Adeyinka Oyelana II, who died in March, served as an icon of peace and unity in Lagos, a city that has been spared the bloody ethnic and religious clashes that have cost thousands of lives in the rest of the country since Olusegun Obasanjo was elected president in 1999. (Since independence from Britain in 1960, Nigeria has mostly been ruled by military leaders, with the worst years being those of Sani Abacha from 1993 to his death in 1998.) Still, no one was surprised to learn when the 91-year-old "King of Kings" passed away after 38 years on the royal stool. Instead, diners proclaimed Oyelana had "passed his ancestors" and "joined us to eternal glory." The Yorubas don't lament the departure of traditional rulers—especially not cigar-puffing bon vivants who had eight wives and 23 children. Oba was also an Edinburgh-trained pharmacist, a Protestant and a former Sunday-school teacher, although no one here seems to find these qualifications shocking. Oyelana is now buried with his predecessor on the model police grounds. Every 16 days, they are remembered with offerings of gin and palm-oil, ola rasa and aligator-paw pepper.

The crown is not passed automatically from parent to firstborn. Candidates to the top job need only members of the some extended royal family. They inherit an affiliation to

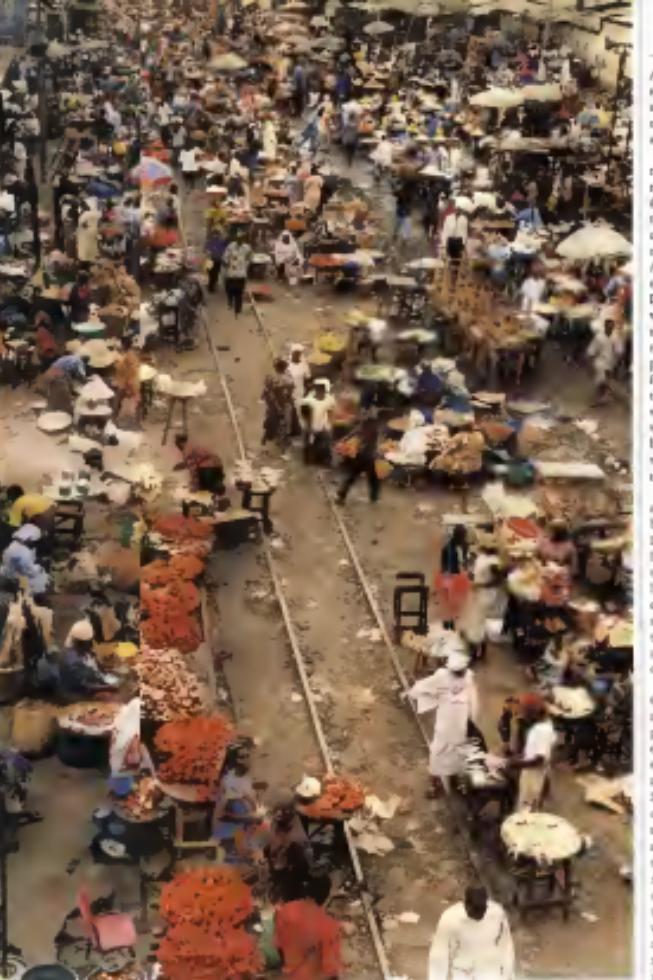
the traditional prime minister of Lagos, the now-revered "the white cap chief," the obas who choose the new oba. I visited the prime minister, T.I. Jimoh Elegushi, at his home in the middle of the selection process. He was wearing an elaborate white robe embroidered with gold. When two lower-ranking elders arrived, one bowed恭敬ly; the other prostrated himself, face flat on the temple floor. They were stretching for, Elegushi explained, "a dedicated man, a man of transparency, of good character, a man of the people who is well-known by the people." Candidates' names are also submitted to a council of priests who consult on, a "messanger of God" who is an angel. Their main preoccupation is to determine if a long reign will be prosperous or calamitous. "White men are sinologists," Elegushi said. "We are Ibo."

From the 15 candidates who applied, the elders eventually selected Rilwan Balogunrhe Aremu Gbolade Alakija, 60, a former top-ranking police officer and a protege of Oyelana. Alakija's predecessor's final rites of passage were completed. Alakija was crowned on Aug. 9 by the Lagos state governor, who made the ceremony the appointment because the oba was a bridge between the government and the people. But the selection was far from controversy, with some relatives of the late oba claiming the elders had bowed to political pressure from the governor.

Some critics have whoreshot the eminence of traditional chiefs, none as strongly as international music star Femi Kuti, who is Yoruba. When in Lagos, he performs at the Alakija Shrine, a concert hall founded by his father, the world renowned Fela, an artist, activist and political prisoner who died of AIDS in 1997. On good nights, the place is packed with people drinking big berries of Sow beer through straws and smoking bubbly joints. "The oba represents a gap," said Kuti. "Obas have been anachronistic since the 19th century, and before that they were seen as the best."

Oba has a point. Obas sold express from royal kingdoms, who were sent off to the

Peddlers hawk a variety of goods in a vast, open-air market in the Nigerian capital.



American. British commoners presented to the royal family are still standing guard at the entrance to the royal palace. The elder was cast in 1894, three years before Britain abolished its slave trade.

Despite Kuti's criticism, Oyelana, in fact, may have played an important and positive role during the worst years of the military dictatorship when Nigeria was expelled from the Commonwealth in 1966. Military rulers sought traditional chiefs in an attempt to obtain a weaker of responsibility. Sergeant Abacha was no exception. In 1995, he arrested his chief of staff, Lt. Gen. Oladipo Dayo, of plotting to overthrow him, and invested the oba to such a supposedly increasing violent. After viewing the coup, the monarch refused to publicly agree with the president. Tunde Odeola, a reporter from Punch newspaper, a Nigerian daily, comments that Oyelana's refusal to blame the officer was in itself a reflection of the regime: "This was something that demanded courage and has been denied," he says, "because Abacha was a ruling state cracking everything in its path."

The old oba was also seen as a figure of religious harmony—if only because he had both Christian and Muslim wives. At the Iru Olo Street mosque in central Lagos, Imam Ibrahim Olibe Agoro was delighted to be asked about Oyelana. "People loved him too much," he responded. The Imam described the monarch as a man of peace and a friend who contributed to the purchase of the mosque's minaret, which was rising in the background. "He considered the life of others like his own life," he said.

Now it's Alakija's turn to make his mark. One thing is certain—the kingdom has entered a dysfunctional. On Lagos Island, harnessed pedestrians dash their way between rows of stalls, less pathway than gutter. The bear streets worse here, perhaps because dead rats are rotting in the middle of the road. Sewage, a miasma emerald green, seeps into the open-air market. And enterprise, it seems, is struggling to make ends meet. Police have set up checkpoints where they routinely extort money. Sitting at the back of a crammed minibus, I saw how one driver slowed down and hunched over a cardboard case carefully rolled to look like a rugger. It's doubtful Alakija will overcome widespread party critics, but as the custodian of Yoruba traditions, the new oba will bring a touch of dignity to a very dicey neighborhood.

# 'WIPE THE SLATE CLEAN'

Toronto's baseball boss on the Blue Jays' fortunes, philosophy and future

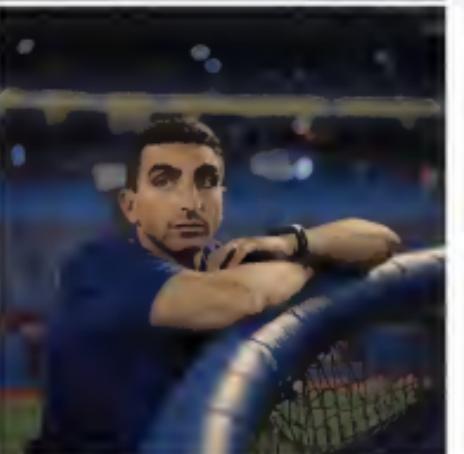
**BLUE JAYS** general manager J.P. Ricciardi is considered among the best in the game. After 16 years with the Oakland Athletics, during which he played a big role in building that organization into one of the best ball clubs in the majors, the Worcester, Mass., native accepted an invitation in late 2001 to run the Toronto Blue Jays' minor operations. The 43-year-old is beginning to see results. Honestly spoke with Michael Rieser/Reporter Michael Binder.

**Why did you decide to come to Toronto?**  
I thought this was a perfect time to come to Toronto and wipe the slate clean. The potential was here to turn things around faster than some other places. And that's part of taking these jobs—so have a fighting chance in opposed to just saying, "Man, there's nothing here. The team is just going to be desultory for a while."

**What do you look at when scouting a player?**  
We look at what he's done in the minor leagues—he walks, does he have command of the strike zone, is he a free swinger, does he strike out a lot, what's his average been and whether he has a lot of home runs. Common sense stuff. Where you buy him, you check everything, right?

**Is the philosophy of the game changing?**  
Baseball, like most industries, is very slow to change. The old-timers will always say, "That's not the way you do it." I've heard people say, "You don't like to bunt. You don't like to steal." They throw all these digests, but we're second in the American League on runs scored. So obviously our philosophy is working. Scoring runs hasn't been our problem, it's actually been pitching.

**Does Carlos Beltran, the Blue Jays manager, share your philosophy?**  
Yeah, we're on the same page. But you know, I didn't hire Carlos to implement our plan. I hired him to implement ours. And he knows what his job is. We're going to be



an off-season club that's back around acting a lot of nothing.

**Are you where you expected to be over the first 200 games?**

We've lost some heartbreakers this year. We're going to build, just like they did in the early 1980s, but we don't have a magic wand to wave and say all of sudden we've got all this talent. Why \$140 million can't go get pitchers like Mike Stanton and Jeff Nelson. But we don't have those resources.

There's nine guys in our club with less than two years' experience. If you take what we've got coming from our minor leagues, then I challenge you to find a team in the big leagues that has as many young talent than we do. That's why I don't think that this is the off-season's just a matter of getting some patching.

**Do you ever regret making a trade?**

The easier thing to do is to regret making a trade, because it's hindsight. When you make a trade, it's well thought-out. For the most part, the trades we make have worked out in our favour. But there's always going to be ones that blow up in your face. I don't know anybody who's been in this game who hasn't made a mistake.

**How long do you want to be GM?**

It's a great job. I love building, I love being a part of something that's going forward. My life is my job and my family. And at the end of this comment, if that's enough, that's enough. I'd like to be able to do a good enough job to make sure that this organization is financially sound, we have players earning and have a good major league team.



## DON'T DO IT, PAUL

Martin must resist funding attractive new programs that could lead to deficits

**IT IS UNFAIR** to assume that a more, iomously designed report on family policy made my decision. But in the State, the two students from the Université du Québec à Montréal have devised a thorough plan on how governments can better assist families with children, especially poorer families. But in the end of this other inspiring scheme, among its obviously charts and graphs, there is an extraordinary assertion: families demands that families in all income brackets receive a universal, non taxable allowance for each child.

Professors Pierre Lefebvre and Philip Morgan suggest that Ottawa pour billions of dollars in a payment of \$2,000 per year for each child who is five years of age and under, bumping that up to \$2,200 for children who are three and under in the medium term. Older children would get less. The longer term? The study, published by the Institute for Research on Public Policy, also notes that, despite the measure, he will want to distinguish himself from Jean Chrétien's last-ditch final days.

Call it the return to universality in a distressing sign of our era's times. Only eight years ago, Paul Martin discovered the awesome problem with deficits: over-grown interest payments outstripped increasing amounts of each year's revenues. Now, the old programs must be funded in good times and bad. One of the key reforms of the last few decades was the gradual elimination of universal, non taxable family allowances and their replacement with refundable tax credits. Those credits fund money to lower-income families and ease taxation on wages in the labour force.

But, the system is not perfect. When family incomes approach the cut-off level of a pitifully meager \$30,000, income tax and additional dollar of income can be more than 75 per cent until the benefit is taxed out. But the current scheme is doing some good in any case. Ottawa reported that only 11.4 per cent of all children lived in poverty in

2006, down from 18 per cent in 1997. "We were able to triple the use of the benefits because we got rid of benefit inequality," says Queen's University economist Ben Coate. "We have a fixed amount of money to spend on social programs, making programs universal really taking money away from the poor. You would be spending to see something that is no social problem at all."

Worse, the very existence of this proposal indicates that pretense to spend are becoming stronger. With SARS and mad cow disease and western forest fires and insatiable electric grids, government is already have their hands full. When Martin becomes prime minister, he will want to distinguish himself from Jean Chrétien's last-ditch final days. And although he is unlikely to adopt this radical proposal, he will have an

**WHEN MARTIN** becomes prime minister, he will want to distinguish himself from Jean Chrétien's last-ditch final days

activist agenda that will inevitably involve new spending.

And these will be few focus so early on. When Martin sacked the deficit, the main opposition in English Canada was the Reform party, which pressed for extra spending cuts. After the next election, his chief opposition will likely come from New Democratic Party Leader Jack Layton—another rough cookie who wants public policy and who has an autistic genius for publicity. In mid July, he had a "united squad" rally where folks roared without pants on a symbolic Peace Tower to protest Ottawa's lack of funding for public transit. It's a bold cause. If it shows there will be few strong voices calling for spending.

The pretense are nourishing exemplars. True, the smaller ones have rarely been

blown into the black after years of deficits. Only E.L. and Newfoundland and Labrador will likely be in the red in 2008-2009. But the few larger provinces are having a rough time. Only Alberta will emerge with a substantial surplus. Quebec only enhanced its books when Jean Charest rest his professor's budget. Ontario is trying to trim about \$800 million short spending to avoid a deficit. And British Columbia will be about \$2.5 billion in the red. "Many provinces have large debts, so interest payments take up a share of spending," says Doug Porter, senior economist at BMO Nesbitt Burns. "And health care costs can take up 50 per cent of spending."

Internationally, we have no pause to conform with prudent partners, remarkably. Canada is the only G-7 nation not running a deficit. U.S. total government deficits have now swollen to an estimated 4.6 per cent of the size of the economy. Japan is an astonishing 77 per cent. "We are the good guys," says a federal finance official in some wonderment. "The only good guys."

What is to stop Ottawa from skipping back into the red when faced with new proposals such as the one on family policy? For starters, Martin is unlikely to budget for a deficit deliberately, only because he went through the math to get rid of it. And the voters are no in a mood for red ink. Liberal politico Michael Maraschino says Canadian learned their lesson during the mid 1990s. And they have remained efficient ever since. Any politician who ran around is packing his/her political skin. In a poll of Léger respondents in early June, 74 per cent were very concerned about federal overspending—compared to 34 per cent who feared about unemployment. "Politicians drove the poor home about deficits in the 1990s," argues Maraschino, "and it has had a lasting impact on our psyche. We regard deficit as bad—and we don't want that."

So what does that mean? For starters,

Martin should patch holes with targeted measures. He could, for example, raise the income level at which child benefits are issued back from families. Or increase the benefit itself. And academics, no matter how idealistic, should never, ever urge Ottawa to spend money on causes late—when there is no such due to do.

Mary Jarigan's column appears every other

# THE GIRL FROM GOD'S COUNTRY



She raced dogsleds, ran whitewater, and pioneered the nude scene. KAY ARKATAGE rediscovers Nell Shipman, Canada's first female director, and the original woman centaur.

She's our forgotten star, a Canadian icon who carved out her own Hollywood berth—for nearly a decade a symbol of advanced modernism, and unapologetic womanhood. From 1912-24, Nell Shipman became famous as the female icon of silent film iconoclasts really set in the mold of Canada, a lead she called "the Great White North." She worked as a writer, producer, director, star—actress/actress/actress. If she were doing it today, she would be a one-woman cult.

Born in Victoria in 1892, Shipman moved to Seattle with her family at 12 but never lost sight of her Canadian roots. At 15, she left home to join a touring vaudeville troupe. By her mid-20s, she had written a star turn in a series of popular silent films based on stories by adventure-adventure writer James Oliver D'Orville (writing westerns and driving doggedly, Shipman was our original female action figure. Her biggest hit, *Back to God's Country* (1919), remains Canada's earliest extant feature film. And she was the first Canadian woman to direct a movie.

How her legacy finally gets due in *The Girl from God's Country: Nell Shipman and the Silent Cinema* (TUT Press), by Kay Arnstine—a professor of film and women's studies at the

University of Toronto and a witness programmer with the Toronto International Film Festival, which this year is mounting an unprecedented retrospective of Shipman's work (Sept. 4-13). Arnstine relates Nell's Miller—writer wife with a fair's passion and a scholar's eye. She insists that Shipman, for all her independence and lack of prudery, was not ahead of her time. "She was precisely of her time," says Arnstine, arguing that she typified a generation of early-20th-century women who were discovering ecology, animal rights, feminism and sexual liberation.

What does distinguishes Nell is her character singularly. Her, her productions were American, and her desire was pure Hollywood—inspired by a violent, chauvinistic paranoid she, like so many silent film leading ladies, faded into obscurity as scandal and the studio monopolies took over. Yet her vision was Canada personified. And now, as this country's cinema still struggles to find a voice, it's interesting to look back at one of our boldest pioneers. Nipman's quips in these captions from Armstrong's book are drawn from her autobiography, *The Silent Screen and My Talking Heart*, and her autobiographical novel, *Abandoned Souls*.

BRIAN D. JOHNSON



A. Shipman's fierce  
protector, her man,  
defeated the villain  
and generally saved  
the day—albeit the  
white-looking good



## Her biggest hit was promoted by a sketch of a naked woman and this advice to exhibitors: "Don't Book Back to God's Country unless You want to prove that the Nude is NOT Rude."

**SIMPERING** (Left) Gish with her tips: "Get a little poise, helpless and looks—admittedly bad to the naked eye—was for the hero to rescue her from the wicked hoodlums; but they fatigued vanity—these may be the popular stereotypes of women in the silent cinema, but they are by no means typical of all movie women from the period. With contemporary research, we discover a repeated tragicomic of emergent modern women who chose submissiveness, modern implies openly expressed sexual desire, and even resisted the happily ever.

The Great White North), she had to protect her husband, defeat the villain and generally save the day, always with the help of a dog and her private army of trained wild animals—notably her pet bear, Brownie. In most of her films, Shipman played the leading role, always of the heroic stamp. (Likewise our town was older about art—represented they fell ill, were injured, or were simply "arrested." Her maternal beauty, the easy presence of her body, her great sense of moral justice, and the connection with animals and nature: these are the signs of her stereotypical femininity, and simultaneously the cause of the sexism that allowed her to retain the elude of the women protagonist as a victim to be rescued.

From the moment of her first association with Carwood in *God's Country* and *the Woman*, Nell had become typed as an out-

door hoodoo. (Remember Carwood's *Forrest, Son of Kansas* (1918), that's was "a dilly of a river scene," dangerous enough that had he hired nature double for Shipman. It was a 36-ft., feet-first jump onto the surf, if not timed perfectly, the jumper landed on the rocks instead. The stout woman was pregnant and terrified by the assignment, as Shipman offered to do it, with the proviso that the stout woman would be paid anyway. The water was so cold that Shipman passed out on the rocks with the current, and she had to be rescued by a stout pole plunged into her "long soggy blue hair" and hauled in "like a hawk of spaghettis on a roasting fork."

In *A Gentleman's Agreement* (1918), Shipman narrowly escaped drowning in a scene that involved two men and an overworn canoe. She remembers the near-death expe-

rience as "most dismal and grim" length in her memory, reducing the mask the incident left on her memory over 50 years later: "The leading man wasn't a very good swimmer, and when we got out that wild, whatever he forgot what little he knew. I was lucky enough to reach him and we made that big rock on shore in the middle. Then poor Jim let go of me—he was scared still, you know—and I was swept on downstream toward that place. Can you see it? Where the whole river seems to pour under the rocks? It was 'by-hue' if I hit that and that did not seem a chance I wouldn't, the current was so strong for me and the boat does not big and slippery like, do you know, over the bank. I see two little rocks. I thought—'if the current will only carry me over there on gill—let me passable! And it did! I had just time to relax it as I was

swung by. The others came running and pulled me out, but over couch and go, I can tell you."

**THE CHARACTER** of Dolores in *Back to God's Country* (1919) is doggedly 250km across the dry landscape to get her wounded husband to a doctor, physically hurling the villain in the process and emerging victorious. An acrobatic muckwoman with no fear of weapons, she holds the villain's scowling face at gunpoint, then shoves him to the shoulder to force him to leave. When she reaches the gun, she uses a dog to flick a triumphant escape and rescue. Active, courageous, and all-round woman may be found in other genres such as the western, but surely the woman in the pool, she captioned the scene "In a Dark Pool with a Bear Behind."

In reality, but as moment, *As Dolores is bathing* is a glorious moment of pool, the villain lies at her through the bushes and bushes that deadly place. The scene was first shot with Shipman wearing a modest flesh-colored wool bathing costume. After the first take, when she wore the wet thick wool branch and wrinkle about her body, Shipman firmly stepped in, shedding the costume and directing the cinematographer so that the scene as she would make no pretense while still making her unadorned flesh largely evident. The gesture was exceptional at a time when modesty and hygiene were marked by Gish-like racyness, and racy upperclass film only in terms of genteel debauchery. In her autobiography, her characteristic sense of humor prevails as she notes that, because Dolores is with her by the pool, she captioned the scene "In a Dark Pool with a Bear Behind."



She adds wistfully, "Now that a beautiful fashion reporter [Sandy Lerner] was photographed in the nude in a feature called *Envy* but I really was first."

The review was accompanied with photos featuring a drawing of Shipman's palling a shark across her slender naked body as she stood knee-deep in water. In the trade papers, the pronouncement was even more explicit, featuring a sketch of a naked female body writhing lyrically on top-top, with that advice to exhibitors: "Don't Book *Attack* as *God's Country* unless You want to prove that the *Nude* is NOT Real."

Although it is not uncommon today to think of women who lived a century ago as hopelessly encumbered in outmoded attitudes—they must have been single, barefoot, pale, and sexually repressed—Shipman's autobiography and her autobiographical

memoir the *beer* was a star player among the 100 animals in Shipman's private men-

novel parts a very different picture. She represents herself as readily experienced without any reservations or slurs of being a "loose woman." In *Abandonment* Paul, Neil, who had become Canadian Impresario Ernest Shipman's fourth wife in 1930, presents her extramarital relationship with her film company manager Tom Van Taylor as being long to the world of nature, as natural as the flowers in May.

**SHIPMAN'S** back-to-God's Country warhorse almost entirely on location in northern Alberta. The cast and crew travelled by train to Lesser Slave Lake—the middle of nowhere, about 250 km north of Edmonton. There was no man, manure, no hotel, just a know-

drift. The village was "nothing but a collection of fisherman's shacks on the shore of an ice-bound lake." The river had stoves and blankets, but you could "drank a can through the crack" and the snow came drifting in. The dining hall was "an unpainted board shack with a long table running its length. The table was made of three planks and the benches were single boards." To this desolate and numbingly cold location the Hollywood director's wife had packed formal evening dresses.

Shipman's auto-biography reports that they shot one scene, in which Dolores "crossed endless caribou miles across the frozen waste," in temperatures of 50 below. "They loaded film in cold-changing bags on the dirt floor of our chilly cabin. The men shivers grew and we removed the brittle Ourco company manager, Tom Van Taylor, suf-

ficed a frozen foot. Leading man Ronald Bryson contracted pneumonia"—from which he eventually died.

American scholar Tom Threlly's note on the episode offers an amazing addition to the story: "Tom Taylor returned to a hotel in San Francisco to cure his Lesser Slave Lake frostbite. Heeding the advice of an Alaskan, he had sat on the train heading south from Canada to California, [he] loaded belltops to bring back a wash tub, a barometer, cigarbox and liquor, and proceeded to soak ankles and feet, and toke, a pair of wild boarhounds, had the run of the house."

Shipman delighted in taking bear and dog downhounds in her car. "Bear and Caffe used to ride in the back seat of the old National without leather, each with a head thrust out as they took the turns. The effect on even the sparse traffic of that day was bedlam. I'd park it downtown and go into a room and leave the pair in the car. Guarded by Laddie, Brewster would stay in the back seat but would perform gymnastics clambering himself on the top brace or riding on her head to climb for the individual audience. The police asked me not to bring the bear downhounds. She red up traffic."

In 1932 Shipman moved her home, production company and dog to Upper Pine Lake in the Idaho wilderness. She lived with son Barry and partner Van Taylor in a log cabin 21 miles from the nearest road. They lost Christmas together, in 1934, in

a large pane, a dining table and an over-head shower. Whereas small animals such as raccoons, squirrels, chipmunks, a deer and a desert marmot ignored her man and cage, several gray desert foxes won't stop, persisting to ride on Shipman's shoulders. Fuchs and Iba, a pair of wild boarhounds, had the run of the house.

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Topic with a .22 rifle, he and his mother lock themselves in the bushhouse for the night and, fearing that Van Taylor has murdered Stet, leave quietly on moonshines at first light. When they finally arrive in Spokane, Wash., Shipman collapses for five days.

**BY 1935**, Van Taylor was gone, Nell Shipman Productions was bankrupt, and the land he'd sent the hounds to seize the animals Shipman owned \$1,795 to her landlord, who sought a court-ordered auction of 100 animals. She succeeded in blocking that auction, and her wildlife collection was eventually consigned to the San Diego Zoo. The *Priest River Times* noted that "about 40 animals and birds" were sent away, including "dogs, bears, deer, wildcats, wolves, skunks, eagle, rats, porcupine, roe, and other small animals." Shipman was the base in this shagument.

Shipman never lost her love of animals. In her old age, long after her company had gone bankrupt and her wild animals were dispensed, her dogs and cats lived with her in her house.

**AFTER SHE LEFT** Van Taylor, Shipman married artist Charles Ayers. For the duration of the marriage, he supported himself and her family as a writer, mostly of novels and magazine articles, until Ayers became afflicted with paranoid man's disease due to the humiliations of being repudiated by his wife. She let him go. But she remained plausibly by her husband's selection of male partners. After Ayers, she took up with a man who had as many slaves in his hellish plantation, and haunted around America with him for nearly 20 years, obnoxiously concocting scenarios to revive her career.

Shipman went through enormous debacles. Despite that, and the horrors of dire poverty, she continued to write. She always had a pool of projects to dog. In 1939, she and her fourth partner moved the times. Because her truculent Underwood had been pawned for \$60 and remained in California, for a time she had a weird stereotype. When they could no longer afford the payment, she had to write by hand, when there was no money for stationery, she wrote on the back of the movie call sheets.

In 1970, Shipman died alone and broke, with the manuscript of her autobiography waiting for publication.

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**Shipman was plagued by her disastrous selections of men, including one with as many aliases as he had creditors**

**LEAVING HER HUSBAND** and her partnership with Carwood behind, Shipman returned to southern California to make movies independently. She bought a house in Highland Park, where she lived with her son, Barry, a housekeeper, the collie Laddie, and Brownie the bear. Van Taylor had succeeded on the next-door lot, where Neil did the editing of the movies.

She had purchased the lot of wild animals used in *Attack* as *God's Country* as part of the severance agreement after the dissolution of her partnership with Terrell and Carwood. The collection also included a large Indian honey bear and a Siberian wolf. The zoo eventually became the largest privately owned collection of wild animals in the United States.

Brownie the bear's residence was carried out of the hillside and name complete with



## AFTER VIOLENCE STRIKES

I miss my brother, but I can deal with that. It's his *murder* I still struggle with.

**WHETHER** in the form of war,กรรมical terrorism or local crime, violence leaves its mark on the lives of survivors—survivors who can easily be silenced and forgotten. Since my brother, Dr. Douglas Cooper, was killed four years ago, I have come to understand domestic terrorism in a new way. His body has never been found. As I have pondered what might have happened that night, the terror he must have felt while his life was being taken, I have felt the numbness and fear—feelings I now know are normal for a trauma victim. Violent images, like flying behaviour or amnesia—classic of the event—leave me feeling traumatized all over again.

The man who took my brother's life, Dr. Abraham Cooper, had lost the right to practice medicine to the Fairview Health Complex in Fairview, Alta., nearly 450 km northeast of Edmonton. He'd lost these hospital privileges in 1994 as a result of disruptive behaviour and his refusal to sign a code of conduct. Cooper remained defiant and filed a lawsuit against the local health authority and the three other physicians in the community of 3,200, including my brother, claiming they had schemed to drive him out of business. Even though Doug knew the lawsuit was unfounded, he longed to settle the matter, and so welcomed an invitation to meet with Cooper when he called on the evening of May 5, 1999.

When Doug did not return from the meeting, his wife, Jean, called the police. They found Doug's blood in Cooper's office as far and, later, on his clothes. They also found a document, apparently written by Cooper and signed by Doug admitting to the alleged embezzlement. Three weeks later, police arrested Cooper and charged him with first-degree murder; after a five-week trial in October 2000, a jury convicted him in Quebec of the lesser charge of manslaughter.

The trial became a伤心 disease for Cooper's loved ones—his defense lawyers even argued that Doug had killed his own death to set Cooper up. I sat helplessly in the defense room like a accusation about myself

or's character and motives. Cooper's evidence about the defendant was not allowed and he chose not to testify and so did not account for his actions on the evening of the crime. Evidence that Cooper confined Doug to his signature trailer during was considered "inadmissible" by the court.

I learned that the rights of my family and my brother are secondary to the defendant's due process rights. Even though I too am a victim of the crime, I was unable to speak freely because of the possibility of jeopardizing a fair trial for the defendant and any future legal proceedings—and because of the expectation that one not question the sanctity of the court.

I am grateful for those who worked so hard to expose this crime and for the support from family and friends over these years. I need to tell the story, but know that it can worsen my insensitive anyone who listens. Indeed, when a violent victim, it applies not to affect many people. I am often asked if "it" is ever over. People who ask the question need well. What else is there? Are they suggesting that it should be over? That I



should be getting over it? That it would be easier to know that it's over? How I wish that were the case.

Whenever a body is discovered, we wonder if it might be Doug. When I hear of similar cases, I understand why families continue to search. For my family, the trial is now a bitter memory. We did not get answers to our questions. We didn't need a trial to know that our loved one was dead.

Our trial has been delayed as further legal proceedings work their way through the system. In October 2002, the Alberta Court of Appeal dismissed Cooper's appeal of the verdict. In July 2003, the appeal court dismissed the Crown's appeal of the sentence. And on Aug. 14 the Supreme Court of Canada dismissed the offender's request for a hearing. We now prepare ourselves for his statutory release date, Sept. 1, 2005.

One has to choose to be a crime victim. Some talk of the need for closure, but I know that is not possible. Life does go on, but it will never be the same. While I continue to grieve with the loss of my brother, a lifelong mentor and friend, I continue to struggle with the fact that his life was taken by another human being whom he should have been able to trust. Speculations by those who believe that "bad things don't happen to good people" add to the pain. Some choose to leave the victim. Instead, an officer of the court (the defense lawyer) did just that.

Most often, when we hear of brutal assault on our fellow human beings, the stories are about someone else. We must find the system in our society designed to protect us at work, at play when roughly hit home, we lose our innocence. We change.

Having chosen not to be a passive victim, I am calling for reform and accountability by the offender and the system. But as I wait, I also begin healing. I want to ensure that my brother is remembered for his integrity and his dedication to, and love for, his family, profession and community. He died trying to solve a very difficult problem.

I am inspired by the words of a homeless man who was mocked and ostracized 3000 years ago. In his dying moments, he was able to say, "Father, forgive them for they know not what they do."

I expect that those words are the key to my own healing. ■

Hazel Magnusen is a retired registered nurse and writer living in Markdale, Alta. To comment, email [everydayhazelnut.ca](mailto:everydayhazelnut.ca).

## CLOSING NOTES



TV | 48  
Young actors with cause

The kids of *Desperate* include, including Jake Lipkin and Laurence Cooley, make a video for UNICEF.



People | 50  
A night at the jazz-opera  
Ottawa's newest 3-D attraction, composed in jazz operas, opened for the 40th anniversary of the Gayle Jazz Festival. The production, about two interwoven couples living in Quebec City, was based on a script by poet George Elliott Clarke.



### Health | Where's the beef?

First came soy. Then came flax. Now the latest "out there" health food craze are cooking with hemp seed and amazingly raw food. "When I learned how healthy hemp seed was," says Ruth Shuman, "I thought, 'We found our calling.'" Along-time, leading proponent of legalizing hemp products in Canada (which was ratified in 2001), Shuman decided that the best buds—seeds chock full of essential fatty acids and high-quality protein—should be incorporated into everyday, mainstream meals. Shuman now owns Ruth's Hemp Foods, a Toronto-based company that markets raw shelled hemp seeds as well as hemp bars, chips, oil, salsa, milks, salad dressings and burgers. "I don't think people should eat because of ideology. We should eat because we love food and if it can be good for you," says Shuman, 44.

Ruth's Hemp Foods  
would like you to try  
her special hemp  
omega burger

THE DETAILS:  
For more info:  
[www.ruthshemp.com](http://www.ruthshemp.com)  
about the book:  
*Raw: The Art and  
Science of Great Food*



Ruth's Hemp Underkoffer, a Mississauga-based food and living food chef and cookbook author, understands the reasons people have toward healthier eating—especially nothing on foods never cooked above 110 degrees, or 43°C. Underkoffer explains that veggie, grains, seeds, etc. prepared about that temperature lose about half of the nutritional value. "Food is like religion to people," she says. "But maybe your mother didn't know everything we know now."

Underkoffer, 36, is featured in the new *Raw* Mann documentary. Go Further, preparing raw delights for new *Woolly* (Kleenex) and friends as they hit the length of the Pacific coast and talk to collagen about its vascular issues. Meanwhile, Shuman will be at the movie's Toronto International Film Festival premiere—cooking up hemp omega burgers for audience members. A healthy talk-at dinner and a movie. **JAMY CARMICHAEL**

### LISTINGS

Polka  
Sept. 9-12  
On their 40th, Léandre, Paquet and the four members of this L.A. band tout their new album as "the *Oldies* from hell." *Stargazing* starts at 8 p.m. Sat. at Molson Canadian Jazz Fest in George Elliott Clarke's *West*. [www.molsoncanadianjazz.com](http://www.molsoncanadianjazz.com)  
Winnipeg, Regina, Saskatoon and Edmonton

Keith Urban & Garth  
Barenjose  
Sept. 13-14  
A New Zealand-born country music heartthrob wins up with Devoe, Rita Lee, down home girl for an *Entire Lou*. [www.ritalee.com](http://www.ritalee.com)  
Winnipeg, London, Hamilton, Waterloo, Ottawa and Owen Sound

Steve MacIntyre and  
Sept. 2  
The playful Virginia-based band will rock the Bell Centre just before Montreal's debut concert, set to feature the likes of Bruce Springsteen, Bruce Cockburn and Montreal

Harvest: Jim & Alan  
Festival  
Sept. 14-18  
More than 150 performances will take place within the confines of the city blocks. *Shameless* stars *Cal* Wilson and *Cain* James. *Shameless* plays at the Bell Centre on Sept. 14-15, 17-18, 20-21 and 23-24. *Cal* Wilson and *Cain* James play at the Bell Centre on Sept. 14-15, 17-18, 20-21 and 23-24.



## TV | The new kids at school lend a helping hand

Degrassi's cast has done more than just act

communicate, who are going through terrible things compared to the great life that we all get to live." Other cast members contribute stage, poems and raps. "We want to be relevant and in the present," says Lauren Cohan, 17, who plays Pege, "not sorry." THAT'll be the goal for *Degrassi*. The Next Generation cast as it begins a third season on Sept. 17. This year the show will tackle serious issues, including unwanted pregnancy, as well as silly situations. He's going to school in low-rise jeans and a visible thong. But whatever the trial or tribulation, *Degrassi* characters will redouct acknowledge there are others out there with problems bigger than them.

— SHANDA SKINNER

## TV | Less love, more war

### THE EX-FACTOR

(Starts Sept. 13, LW Network)  
Everyone's been there. No one, however, should live it for television. In each episode of this new 13-part reality series, someone—a desperate, lonely, respondent someone—tries to make with loves she/he/they lost. For example, there's Robbie from Woodbridge, Ont., who finds down two women from his past. One leaves him, though involved in a five-year-long relationship, drinks some wine, excuses and then goes home with him to talk about things "privately." The second—a friend whom he never told he loved—is married. The show is intense and, of course, totally mesmerizing.

### AND STAMPING PANCHO WILLIS HIMSELF

(Starts Sept. 7, The Movie Network and Shaw Central) Pancho Willis, the KISS icon in the TV film is trending. The story follows a young, unapprised movie executive (Eliza Dushku, *Fight Club*) as he tries to force Will and his revolutionaries battling to defend drug smugglers in 1944. It's a historical moment, not only for Mexico but for the world of cinema, making the first film to run even the then-standard 26-minute length. The acting is superb—Antonio Banderas stars in the title role with surprising performances from Carole's Colin Firth (Dracula) and Jim Broadbent (Moulin Rouge)—while "real-life" and "film" are beautifully interwoven with purposeful cinematography. For moments from its history, this cannot be missed.

— AMY CAMERON



Elizabetta as rebel general Pancho Willis

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## Diversions | Stephen Harper

What the Canadian Alliance leader has taken to this summer

MONTREAL, 1995: KIDS 3.0: GAME OVER. "I see every kid's movie. And this day, my kids was 6, but the 3-D gave me a headache."

ROCKS: HARRY POTTER AND THE ORDER OF THE PHOENIX by J.K. Rowling. "I've read it to die for, but I'd read it by repeat. This book has been better than the one before."



## People | Definitely not your parents' opera

Open-minded Experimental Not many people would use those words to describe operas. But jazz pianist/composer D. W. Jackson does. And when he explains what he means, it's hard not to agree. Unlike musical theatre—where, as the composer of the off-Broadway hit *Mydelight*, he also knows something about—operas, he says, doesn't dismiss "everything being completely dour and explained to you from the beginning." That may make jazz and opera perfect soulmates.

That's what Guelph Jazz Festival organizers are banking on when they present the jazz-operas *Quodlibet*, on Sept. 5. They're

also counting on the sheer talent of a talent behind ever-provocative artistic director Alej Heffie commissioned the production for the festival's 10th-anniversary. Governor General Award-winning George Elliott Clarke penned the words, and a heap of jazz, gospel, Porgy-and-Bess and blues jazz musicians will bring it to life, and the Ottawa-born, New York City-based Jackson wrote the music. He also provided fodder for the storyline. A memoir written by his African-American father and Chinese-born

mother helped inspire Clarke's libretto about two mixed-race couples living in Quebec City.

Like the Guelph, Ont., festival itself, Jackson, 36, knows how to push the limits of jazz. He's tackled the avant-garde songs with the likes of violinist Billy Bang and tenor sax man David Murray, and written a sweeping jazz-orchestral arrangement for his latest CD, *Suite for New York*. Quebec City (which will also be performed at the Vancouver Jazz Cultural Centre on Oct. 17 and 18), he insists, is on the accessible end of the spectrum. "There's always been a melodic bent in my music," he says. "I can't help myself." And if he is jazz on operas, who can resist a good tone? **SUE PERINSON**

Commissioned and co-produced  
seminole Jackson takes up another genre

Books | CARTOGRAPHERS'  
EYES ON A NORTHERN PRIZE

The folk of the North has captivated adventurers from ancient times. From the 1600s to the 1900s centuries, they have left足 for a passage to Asia. In fact, our explorers have while red the Arctic looking for oil or diamond. Others through history have journeyed for the North Pole, often with disastrous results. The Historical Atlas of the Arctic (Biblioasis & Mcdowell) provides fascinating greater descriptions of all those events, and more. Compiled and written by Geoff Hayes, whose earlier works include the *Historical Atlas of British Columbia* and the *Historical Atlas of Canada*, the book features more than 300 maps ranging from some of the earliest cartographic depictions of the North to a contemporary digital rendering of the Arctic's satellite topography. There are also historical profiles showing the region's indigenous peoples and the displaced Franklin expedition, as well as archival photographs of dog teams, submersibles and research— even a balloon—destined for the top of the world.

## BESTSELLERS

## Fiction

- 1. **THE HUNGRY PRIMA** D. J. SAVAGE 19
- 2. **THE CURIOUS HISTORY OF TIME PIE ON THE NIGHT SHIFT** Alan Kaufman 10
- 3. **THE VA VAMPYRES** Ian Ramm 12+
- 4. **SAFE BONES** Ruth Reichl 10
- 5. **THE JEWISH WOMEN'S SAVITI PARADE** 10
- 6. **WHITE HORSE CHASE** Michael Arndt 10
- 7. **ARMED AND DANGEROUS** Tony Gondola 13
- 8. **DEAD PREPARATIONS FOR THE FLASHING** Jennifer Turner 10+
- 9. **RAVEN OF THE BLOODRED SHIRT** Diane Duane 10+
- 10. **MYST MISTERIUM** Douglas Clegg 10

## Non-fiction

- 11. **EVANIE HOPFNER: JAZZY-ACHOO** (Children's) 10
- 12. **ITALIA** Alain de Botton 12+
- 13. **IMMIGRANT: Migrant Stories** 12+
- 14. **THE SECRET HISTORY OF THE FRENCH BAKERS** Michael Ladd 12+
- 15. **MANHATTAN: Sweet Manhattan** 12+
- 16. **MYTHS AND LEGENDS** Michael Morpurgo 12+
- 17. **THE WIVES** Paul Shand 14
- 18. **KATE DEBEVERE** L. Scott Ring 10
- 19. **LEAP OF FAITH: Queen Victoria** 12
- 20. **THE FAMOUS** Michael Morpurgo 12+

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